NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property		
Historic Name: Shield Ranch Other Names/Site Number: Hallmann Ranc Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: N	•	
2. Location		
Street & Number: 16037 Hamilton Pool Roa City or Town: Bee Cave Not for Publication: ☑		County: Travis
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Histori (☑ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibilit National Register of Historic Places and meets the property ☑ meets ☐ does not meet the N	ty) meets the documentation standards ocedural and professional requirement	for registering properties in the
I recommend that this property be considered at the formula nationally □ statewide ☑ locally	following levels of significance:	
Applicable National Register Criteria ☑ A	□B □C ØD	
	State Historic Preservation Officer	
Signature of certifying official/Title		Date
<u>Texas Historical Commission</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	nent	
In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not mee	et the National Register criteria.	
Signature of certifying official/Title		Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	nent	
4. National Park Service Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is:		
 entered in the National Register. determined eligible for the National Register. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, explain: 		
Signature of the Keeper		Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources Within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
21	7	Buildings
37	1	Sites
88	19	Structures
4	5	Objects
150	32	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: AGRICULTURE/agricultural fields, outbuildings and structures, animal facilities

DOMESTIC/single-family dwellings, secondary buildings and structures

FUNERARY/cemetery INDUSTRY/electric utility

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation TRANSPORTATION/road-related, air-related

Current Functions: AGRICULTURE/agricultural fields, outbuildings and structures, animal facilities

DOMESTIC/single-family dwellings, secondary buildings and structures, camp

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FUNERARY/cemetery INDUSTRY/electric utility

LANDSCAPE/garden, natural features, conservation areas

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification: MODERN MOVEMENT/Craftsman, Ranch Style

NO STYLE

Principal Exterior Materials: Concrete; Metal; Stone; Earth; Wood, Other/hollow-clay tile

Narrative Description: See continuation sheets 7 through 21

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, D

Criteria Considerations: N/A

Areas of Significance: Agriculture; Archeology: Historic/Non-Aboriginal

OMB No. 1024-0018

Period of Significance: ca.1870-1970

Significant Dates: 1870, 1882, 1907, 1938, 1941, 1942, 1945

Significant Person: N/A

Cultural Affiliation: Euro-American

Architect/Builder: N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance: See continuation sheets 22 through 36

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (see continuation sheets 37 through 49)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- __ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. Part 1 approved on (date)
- __ previously listed in the National Register
- __ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- __ designated a National Historic Landmark
- __ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission, Austin)
- __ Other state agency
- __ Federal agency
- __ Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 6,345.94 acres

UTM References: See continuation shee 50

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet 50

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet 50

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Amy E. Dase/Historian

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OMB No. 1024-0018

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Date: May 2019

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 51-52; 57-59)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 53-89)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 90-118)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Photograph Log

Shield Ranch, Bee Cave vicinity, Travis County, Texas Photographed by Amy E. Dase, March 2018

The photographs accurately reflect the integrity and condition of the property at the time of nomination.

- Photo 1: Single-family dwelling—Later-Built Foreman's House, camera facing southeast (01A)
- Photo 2: Horse barn—Headquarters Complex, camera facing northeast (03A-01)
- Photo 3: Horse barn—Headquarters Complex, camera facing northeast (03C)
- Photo 4: Cistern—Headquarters Complex, camera facing north (03E)
- Photo 5: Hog wallow—Headquarters Complex, camera facing east (03F)
- Photo 6: Water trough—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southeast (03H)
- Photo 7: Water trough—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southeast (03K)
- Photo 8: Feed troughs—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southwest (03OP)
- Photo 9: Silo—Headquarters Complex, camera facing north (03Q)
- Photo 10: Horse pen—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southeast (03S)
- Photo 11: Squeeze chute—Headquarters Complex, camera facing east (03U)
- Photo 12: Loading chute—Headquarters Complex e, camera facing northwest (03V)
- Photo 13: Single-family dwelling—Headquarters House, camera facing northwest (05A)
- Photo 14: Livestock barn/shearing shed—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing southeast (06A-02)
- Photo 15: Livestock barn/shearing shed interior—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing northwest (06A-03)
- Photo 16: Livestock shed—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing north (06B)
- Photo 17: Livestock dipping vat—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing southeast (06C)
- Photo 18: Water troughs—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing southeast (06FG)
- Photo 19: Cistern and water trough, camera facing southwest (13AD)
- Photo 20: Water trough, camera facing northwest (13B)
- Photo 21: Pump jack, camera facing south (14)
- Photo 22: Livestock trap, camera facing east (17A)
- Photo 23: Deer blind, camera facing north (18)
- Photo 25: Cattle guard, camera facing northwest (20)
- Photo 26: Barn, camera facing northwest (21)
- Photo 27: Hunting cabin, camera facing north (24)
- Photo 28: Cistern—Rock House Pasture, windmill, water trough, camera facing south (25ABC)
- Photo 29: Single-family dwelling—Ranch House, camera facing north (28A)

- Photo 30: Water trough—Ranch House Complex, camera facing west (28AA)
- Photo 31: Pump house and cistern—Ranch House, camera facing west (28BC)
- Photo 32: Play house—Ranch House, camera facing north (28D)
- Photo 33: Gate—Ranch House, camera facing southeast (28L)
- Photo 34: Barn—Ranch House Complex, camera facing northeast (280-01)
- Photo 35: Barn—Ranch House Complex, camera facing east (280-02)
- Photo 36: Barn—Ranch House Complex, camera facing northwest (28P-01)
- Photo 37: Pump house—Ranch House Complex, camera facing northeast (28Q)
- Photo 38: Livestock pen, loading chute, feed trough—Ranch House Complex, camera facing east (28UVW)
- Photo 41: Livestock trap, camera facing southwest (35)
- Photo 42: Low-water crossing, camera facing southeast (36)
- Photo 43: Stone fence, camera facing west (38B)
- Photo 44: Feed trough and cover, camera facing south (46AB)
- Photo 45: Single-family dwelling (site), camera facing north (47A)
- Photo 47: Horse barn/shearing shed—Orchard House Complex, camera facing west (52A-01)
- Photo 48: Horse barn/shearing shed—Orchard House Complex, camera facing north (52A-03)
- Photo 49: Equipment barn—Orchard House Complex, camera facing west (52B)
- Photo 50: Cistern—Orchard House Complex, camera facing north (52D)
- Photo 51: Agricultural field—Orchard House Complex, camera facing northwest (52L)
- Photo 52: Agricultural field—Orchard House, camera facing northeast (52NOP)
- Photo 53: Water trough, camera facing northeast (53B)
- Photo 54: Livestock pond, camera facing southeast (58)
- Photo 55: Feed trough and cover, camera facing north (60AB)
- Photo 56: Wagon road, camera facing north (65)
- Photo 57: Windmill, water tank, solar panel, camera facing west (67BEF)
- Photo 58: Water trough, camera facing west (67C)

Narrative Description

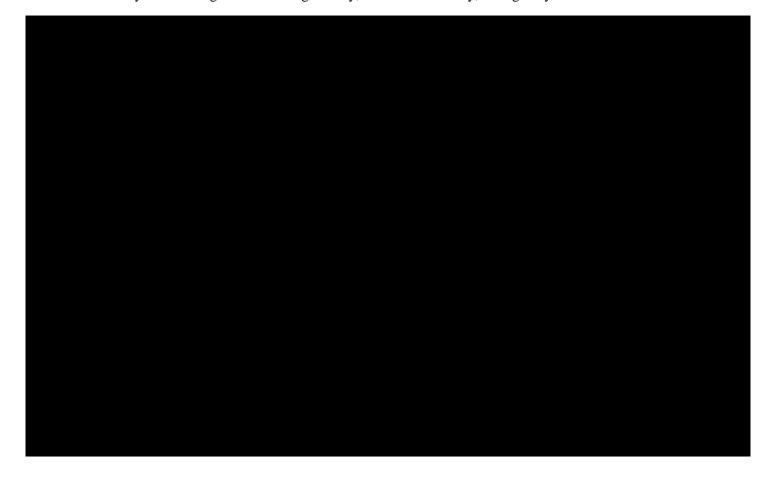
In southwest Travis County, Texas, 18 miles southwest of Austin, the 6,345.94-acre Shield Ranch is within the Balcones Canyonlands of the Edwards Plateau and the Barton Creek watershed. Rough confines for the district are Farm-to-Market Road 3238 and Crumley Ranch Road on the west; Fitzhugh Road and residential subdivisions along that road to the south; and privately held land and residential subdivisions on the east and on the north. About 1870, Euro-Americans settled on the land, and the district includes four ca.1870 transportation properties, a ca.1873 log cabin, a ca.1879 cemetery, and a ca.1882 post office/store. As subsequent owners continued to ranch on the property, the built environment evolved. A marked change began in 1938, when the Shield family purchased much of the land and developed the ranch with domestic resources for themselves and ranch employees. Some agricultural resources date to the nineteenth century, but most are related to the evolution of the ranch under the direction of the Shield family. Distinct large clusters of resources are the Ranch House, with a large but modest Ranch Style single-family dwelling nestled near two barns, and livestock complexes, two of which have shearing sheds. Several small clusters of independent agricultural resources scattered throughout the ranch include isolated feed and water troughs; cisterns with related windmills and water troughs; and livestock traps and pens. Essential components of the setting include agricultural fields, livestock ponds, stone and wire fences, roads, natural waterways, gates, troughs, and cattle guards. The district consists of the largest privately-owned parcel in the vicinity with a concentration of resources, both exemplary and rare, that have been historically associated with the property and retain a high degree of physical and historical integrity. The few modern intrusions are small in scale, and most historic-period resources remain extant, including historic archeological sites mostly hidden by cover of dense foliage. A total of 150 resources (88 structures, 21 buildings, 37 sites, and 4 objects), constituting 82 percent of the district are classified as contributing; 32 resources (19 structures, 7 buildings, 1 site, and 5 objects), constituting 18 percent of the district are classified as noncontributing. Conservation easements with the Nature Conservancy of Texas and the City of Austin safeguard the ranch's natural and cultural resources in perpetuity.

Setting

Canyons and high-gradient drainages dissect the hills and plateaus of the local physiography with springs originating in upthrust areas. Topographic extremes on the ranch represent a small-scale version of the Edwards Plateau, contrasting stony hills and rugged uplifts with fertile grassy valleys along floodplains of the meandering Barton, Rocky, Holman¹, White Branch, and Long Branch Creeks and smaller spring-fed tributaries through Holman, Chalk Knob, and Ben Cade Hollows. About 6 miles of Barton Creek flow through the ranch, about 27 creek miles upstream from its mouth and about 19 creek miles upstream from the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. Springs emanate from upland gullies, creek beds, and bluff walls. The thin rocky soils west of the Balcones escarpment are well suited to ranching, since they sustain a variety of grasses and woody vegetation. Plant communities on the ranch are woodlands along permanent waterways and short and tall grasses along uplands and ridge tops, and they vary along with the range of floodplains and terrace woodlands that include flat bottomlands, gentle slopes, open valley floodplains, and seep springs. Faunal species are diverse and distributed based on local environmental conditions (Dial 1993:3–14).



The earliest Euro-American families to settle this land were drawn to Barton, Rocky, and Holman Creeks. All or parts of more than 30 land grants that would eventually comprise the Shield Ranch were patented to men and one woman, mostly during the last half of the nineteenth century. Some inhabited their holdings, and others conveyed their property to settlers who would occupy the land. Remnants of their homes, agricultural improvements, and funerary traditions are documented as historic archeological sites. These historic archeological sites retain their integrity to a high degree. Since they are each in their original location and their settings remain rural and remote, they evoke an aesthetic of the past and integrity of feeling. With the exception of the post office/store (Resource 19A) and a water well (Resource 49B), which are in good condition, their ruinous state has negatively and irreversibly compromised their attributes of design and workmanship. However, enough original materials are present to portray the function of each resource, and artifacts in the vicinity of each site further elucidate functional and temporal attributes. As surviving representative examples of their respective types, these sites retain strong associative qualities with, and potential to yield information about, broad patterns in local agricultural history. The following inventory and descriptions of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century contributing resources are generally, but not exclusively, arranged by resource number.





Resource 28J

This farmstead site, likely present by 1930 according to an oral source, is just west of the Ranch House (Resource 28A) (Eckols 1989, 1990). This single-family dwelling site (Resource 28J) was present in 1937, but by 1940, only a circle of stones positioned to protect the location remained.



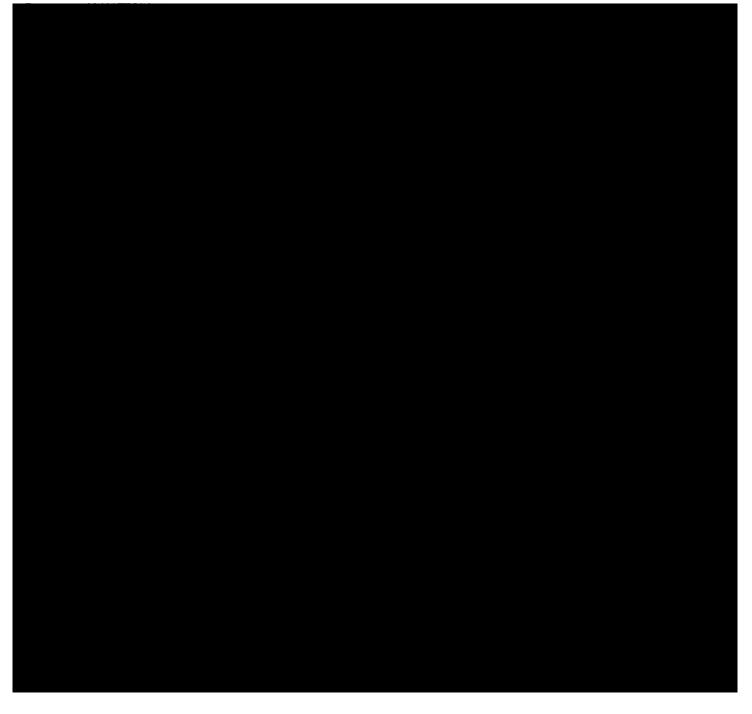
Resource 38

This farmstead site was likely present by the 1870s. A ruinous collection of stones, concrete, and wood shingles indicates the location of a single-family dwelling (Resource 38A). An 1870s stone fence (Resource 38B) and an agricultural field (Resource 38C) are also associated with the site. Little is known about the occupants.





This farmstead site was likely present by the 1880s. A ruinous collection of stones indicates the location of a single-family dwelling (Resource 47A). A zigzag stone fence (Resource 47B) and an agricultural field (Resource 47C) are associated with the farmstead. Little is known about the occupants.





Mid-Twentieth-Century Contributing Resources

Agricultural land use continued to shape the built environment of the Shield Ranch through the mid-twentieth century, with the Shield family directing both development and protection of natural and cultural resources. They subdivided their landholdings into 20 pastures and traps as they purchased these lands. Some of these areas were already fenced, but much of this subdivision was reconfigured to take advantage of the topography and its best use for watering and feeding free-range livestock. Corresponding fence lines define the 20 subdivisions, and a network of interior roads intersects them (Figure 10, Table 3). The Shields' initial developments, from 1938 to 1942 and then into the 1940s, improved two existing and developed two new domestic locations. The locations of two existing farmsteads with single-family residences and known water sources were developed as the Ranch House (Resource 28) and the Orchard House (Resource 52). The new locations were built near the Hamilton Pool Road entrance to the ranch at the Later-Built Foreman's House (Resource 1) and, positioned near two main livestock complexes (Resources 3 and 6), at the Headquarters House (Resource 5), now known as the Ranch Office (Figure 11). Three mixed-used livestock complexes (Resources 3, 28, 52) on the ranch were developed in the locations of existing farmsteads. The fourth livestock complex (Resource 6), dedicated to sheep and goats, was developed in a new location. Three 1940s cistern complexes (Resources 13, 14, and 25) and four other later-developed cistern complexes (Resources 8, 11, 16, and 67) were all in new locations. Myriad smaller resources, like troughs, livestock enclosures, and deer blinds, inconspicuously dot the pastures, in striking contrast with expansive features, like livestock ponds, agricultural fields, and a landing strip.

Acreage of Pastures and Traps

Name	Acreage
Lower Pasture	1,023
Thousand Acre Pasture	894
Rock House Pasture	754
Middle Pasture	743
South Pasture	725
Griffin Pasture	626
West Pasture	454
Naumann Pasture	330
Upper Chalk Knob Pasture	322
Big Field	169

Name	Acreage
Lower Chalk Knob	
Pasture	163
House Trap	89
Coastal Field	57
Goat Trap	48
Middle Trap	41
Bull Trap	32
South Trap	32
Little Trap	19
Ranch House Trap	< 1

These historical buildings, structures, objects, and sites retain their integrity to a high degree. Since they are each in their original location and their settings remain rural and remote, they evoke an aesthetic of the past and integrity of feeling. They retain their original materials and, for the most part, are unaltered, and thus possess integrity of design and workmanship. As surviving representative examples of their respective types, these resources retain associative qualities with broad patterns in local agricultural history. The following description of mid-twentieth-century contributing resources is generally, but not exclusively, arranged by property type and then resource number.

Domestic Complexes

The Shield Ranch has four domestic complexes.³

The **Original Foreman's House** (Resource 2), built by 1937 by former land owner Chester C. Tribble, was extant as late as 1985. The site includes the concrete foundations of a dwelling (Resource 2A), outbuilding (Resource 2B), water well (Resource 2C), and outhouse (Resource 2D).

The Later Foreman's House (Resource 1) is just south of the Shield Ranch main entrance and is now known as the Gate House. Built by 1942, the one-story L-plan dwelling (Resource 1A), of load-bearing buff-color glazed hollow-clay-tile block, was modified with a wood-frame rear addition in about 1993 and a new roof in about 2013. Original modest stylistic components that remain intact include an internal hollow-clay-tile-block chimney, irregular fenestration on the front and side façades, and paired round metal porch posts. A contemporaneous hollow-clay-tile-block garage with a gable roof and an appended carport with a shed roof (Resource 1B) and a ca.1970 metal shed (Resource 1C) are near the house. On the west side of this complex is a ca.1970 concrete root cellar (Resource 1D).

The **Headquarters House** (Resource 5), south of the Headquarters Complex (Resource 3) and west of the Sheep and Goat Complex (Resource 6), is now known as the Ranch Office. The 1941–1942 one-story side-gable wood-frame dwelling (Resource 5A) retains its original footprint and wood cladding. The front porch was enclosed some time before the late 1980s, when the fenestration pattern was mildly altered, modern doors and windows installed, and cantilevered shed porch roofs added. Exposed rafter tails and a minimally stylized stucco-covered internal chimney exhibit nominal Craftsman-influenced architectural detail. The outhouse site (Resource 5B) is southwest of the dwelling, and the smokehouse site (Resource 5C) is to its south. The yard fence is modern.

The **Ranch House** is the most extensive of the domestic areas on the property and is intertwined with an adjacent cluster of agricultural resources (Resources 28O–28BB), discussed separately (Figures 12–15). A farmstead in this location by 1937 had a single-family dwelling, outbuildings, barn, corral, and agricultural field, but none were extant

³ The Orchard House, a fifth domestic complex, consists of noncontributing resources (Resources 52N–52P). A farmstead was extant in this location when the Shields purchased this portion of the ranch in the mid-1940s. A single-family dwelling was remodeled and enlarged for the Louis Herrera family and other ranch employees who resided there. The house was demolished in the early 1990s and a mobile home (Resource 52N) built in 1994. The area is now known as the Foreman's House.

by 1940. From 1939 to 1941, the Shields developed two domestic complexes in this location. The main larger complex has a one-story Ranch Style wood-frame dwelling (Resource 28A), a stone side-gable roof pump house (Resource 28B), a two-story circular stone cistern (Resource 28C), and a one-story wood-frame side-gable playhouse (Resource 28D), all surrounded by a white picket fence (Resource 28G). In the 1940s, they added a metal bell tower (Resource 28I), and a new water well (Resource 28K). A decade later, they added a metal building with a pyramidal roof that appears to be an aviary, but it was used as a dog kennel (Resource 28E). In 1967, they had another water well dug (Resource 28M). The smaller adjacent domestic complex they developed was home to the Luis Alvarez family for many years. It had a modest side-gable single-family dwelling (Resource 28CC), an outbuilding (Resource 28DD), and a chicken coop (Resource 28EE), all demolished sometime after 1995. Noncontributing resources discussed separately, but part of this complex, are a pre-1930 house site (Resource 28J), plus three modern resources, a playscape, trash area, and single-family dwelling (Resources 28F, 28H, and 28N). Also present, but minor and not individually assessed, are walkways, planters, and electric, propane, and water utilities.

The dwelling, pump house, cistern, and playhouse at the Ranch House rest in the shade of several huge oak trees. The dwelling was built in phases between 1939 and 1942. The front east-west rectangular block came first, and a series of rectangular additions that extended to connect a small ca.1939 side-gable building with a canopy followed (Figures 16–18). The front porch enclosure was completed by 1942 (Figures 19 and 20). The dwelling's rambling extended linear façades, typical of Ranch Style design, embrace a rusticism evocative of Depression-era architectural influences that Civilian Conservation Corps projects embraced. Slightly offset wings have differentiated low-pitched gable roof lines all with overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, and gutters. In 1942, the main façade's limestone quoins framed a series of paired and tripartite full-height screens with a central double front door. Historic-period alterations retained the quoins and fenestration pattern, which border and accentuate rhythmically placed paired and tripartite double-hung windows on either side of the central single front door. Asymmetrically positioned, two chunky interior limestone chimneys protrude from the roof, one visible from the front façade, the other from the rear. An interior feature of note is the stylized terrazzo floor with the escutcheon-shaped Shield family crest at the front door (Figure 21). In 2012, the dwelling was renovated, but exterior alterations were limited, and the only noticeable change on the front and side façades is the roof. The original asbestos shingle roof, replaced in-kind in the 1970s, is now metal-clad. The renovation included the addition of screened porches, a covered patio, and an open terrace on the rear of the dwelling. The twostory cistern, its original octagonal roof with exposed rafter tails no longer present, towers over the neighboring squat pump house with Craftsman-influenced exposed rafter tails extending from its side-gable roof, added in the historic period (Figure 22). Single four-over-four double-hung wood windows frame a single central door on the front façade of the full-size playhouse, which has a shed roof with exposed rafter tails that covers the concrete front porch.

Livestock Complexes

The Shield Ranch has four large livestock complexes.

The **Headquarters Complex** (Resource 3), closest to and east of the Shield Ranch main entrance and north of the Sheep and Goat Complex (Resource 6), was developed for various livestock (Figures 23 and 24). A farmstead in this location by 1937 was no longer extant by 1940. In 1939, the Shields improved the complex with a keyhole-shaped concrete hog wallow (Resource 3F). From 1941 to 1942, they added a two-plus-story rectangular gambrel-roof horse barn (Resource 3A); a one-story, wood-frame, saltbox-roof horse barn/chicken coop (Resource 3B); a two-story metal gable-roof horse barn (Resource 3C); a tall circular stone cistern (Resource 3E); and a rectangular stone and concrete water trough (Resource 3K). Improvements from the 1940s to the 1960s were a tall metal gable-roof equipment barn (Resource 3D), four feed troughs (Resources 3G and 3N–3P), and five water troughs (Resource 3H–3J, 3L, and 3M). Noncontributing resources discussed separately, but part of this complex, are a horse pen and loading chute (Resources 3S and 3V) that date to the 1940s, but were modified in the 1990s, plus four modern resources, a hog/dog pen, silo, feed trough, and squeeze chute (Resources 3Q, 3R, 3T, and 3U). Also present, but minor and not individually assessed, are a fuel tank that had a gasoline pump (now in storage), water pump pipe, wood pile, and several small concrete foundations.

From the three horse barns to the small hog wallow, this livestock complex demonstrates the breadth of the ranch's operations. The large gambrel-roof barn, of load-bearing glazed hollow-clay-tile blocks, has five consecutive bays for horses, and the sixth, for the tack room, has a single eight-pane wood window (Figure 25). Each bay has a feed trough that can be accessed from a long hallway (Figure 26). The second level provides hay storage. Interior features of note are wood feed troughs, brands of the escutcheon-shaped Shield family crest, saddles, tack supplies, and handwriting of former ranch workers on the walls (Figures 27 and 28). The front façade of the smaller saltbox-roof barn has five bays for horses and a sixth for a chicken coop, and its rear façade has built-in bin storage and a workshop (Figure 29). The large gable-roof horse barn has eight bays, of which one is enclosed; its second level provides hay storage. The ranch foreman's son, Sherman Eckols, built the equipment barn, a pre-engineered metal building, manufactured by the BEST Company, that protects large machinery from inclement weather. The tall stone cistern provides water for five troughs at the complex, one rectangular of stone and concrete construction, two rectangular concrete, and three circular concrete. Of the four feed troughs, one is rectangular concrete, one is metal, and the other two are wood-frame with gable roofs and Craftsman-influenced exposed rafter tails.

The exemplary Sheep and Goat Complex (Resource 6), near and east of the Shield Ranch main entrance and south of the Headquarters Complex (Resource 3), was built between 1941 and 1942 (see Figure 24). The long one-story rectangular (158 by 86 ft) barn and shearing shed has a saltbox roof (Resource 6A) covered with corrugated metal. The east-most 95 ft of the building is wood-frame with corrugated metal cladding. The remaining west-most 63 ft is of load-bearing buff-colored glazed hollow-clay-tile block. The north façade has two wide openings with sliding corrugated metal doors, one on the tile portion of the building and the other on the metal portion. The south façade has a series of corrugated metal sliding doors that open to four interconnected pens (Resource 6D). Inside the barn/shed, two equidistant rows of strapping Ashe juniper posts support the roof. Interior features of note include handwriting of former ranch workers on the walls that denotes the dates of calf tieing [sic] sessions. Perpendicular to the south façade, a one-story rectangular dipping-vat shed (Resource 6B) is appended to the hollow-clay-tile-block portion of the barn/shed, which serves as the dipping-vat shed's north wall. Sturdy Ashe juniper posts support the shed's corrugatedmetal-clad hipped roof with exposed rafter tails. The dipping-vat shed has partial-height palisade walls of non-loadbearing Ashe juniper. On the north end of the shed's east side is ingress via a metal-clad frame door, and on the south end is egress via a metal-frame gate with wood slats. In the center of the shed's poured concrete foundation is a keyhole-shaped dipping vat. The vat is a repurposed section of hollow concrete cylindrical road culvert that is approximately 4 ft deep and 5 ft 10 inches in diameter with a capacity of about 850 gallons. Extending south and upward from the cavity's lowest point, eight concrete steps rise to the ninth, which is at level with the surrounding foundation. Near the vat and on each side of the steps is a single robust Ashe juniper post permanently set in the concrete foundation. Other interior features of note include handwriting of former ranch workers on the walls that denotes numbers of head counts as animals were dipped (Figure 30). On the south side of the barn/shearing shed are four variable-width corrals of non-load-bearing Ashe juniper that extend equivalently southward to form a large rectangle (Salmon et al. 2018:27-30, 25). Some portions of the corrals have metal posts with V-wire. A rectangular concrete water trough (Resource 6E) is in one of the corrals. Noncontributing resources discussed separately, but part of this complex, are two modern water troughs (Resources 6F and 6G).

The agricultural resources at the **Ranch House Complex** (Resources 28O–28BB) are intertwined with an adjacent cluster of domestic resources (Resources 28A–28N), discussed separately (see Figures 12–15). In 1937, a farmstead with a single-family dwelling (Resource 28J), outbuildings, a barn, a corral, and an agricultural field were in this location. In 1940, the field and an associated outbuilding were extant, but by 1967, none of these resources were present. From 1939 to 1941, the Shields improved the complex with a one-story rectangular gable-roof stone barn (Resource 28P) with a non-load-bearing Ashe juniper palisade fence (Resource 28T) surrounding the related pen (Figure 31). Shortly thereafter they added a one-and-a-half-story rectangular barn with a saltbox roof (Resource 28O), a feed trough with a gable roof (Resource 28W), and five rectangular concrete water troughs (Resources 28X–28BB). In the 1960s, they had a side-gable pump house (Resource 28Q) built on the east side of the complex. Although modified in the 1990s, the loading chute (Resource 28V) retains its original cedar support posts and concrete base. Noncontributing resources discussed separately, but part of this complex, are a livestock pen (Resource 28U) that dates to the 1940s, but was modified in the 1990s, plus two modern circular metal cisterns (Resources 28R and 28S).

The barns and other resources at the Ranch House Complex accommodated the Shields' American Quarter horses and other livestock. A corrugated metal roof covers the three-bay front façade of the smaller stone barn. Two open outer bays flank the central enclosed bay; the west-most bay has two stalls, and the east-most bay has a single stall with Shield's raised concrete initials, FWS, on the interior (Figure 32). The larger barn is of load-bearing buff-colored glazed hollow-clay-tile-block construction. It has an 11-bay front façade with five bays flanking either side of a central opening. The three outer-most bays on each side have four-over-four double-hung wood windows. A skinny tile chimney projects from the metal roof, replaced in kind in 2011, on the west side, which provided accommodations for seasonal ranch hands. The 11-bay rear façade is arranged similarly with a central opening, but with a wood door on each of the outer-most bays and a pair of hinged wood shutters on the eight remaining bays. The side façades each have a single door and a series of three coupled door-window pairs. Interior features of note include items with the escutcheon-shaped Shield family crest and handwriting of former ranch workers on the walls.

Another mixed-used livestock complex (Resources 52A–52D and 52H–52M), sometimes referred to as the Orchard House Complex, is on the west side of the ranch, just east of Crumley Ranch Road (Figure 33). By 1942, the domestic resources associated with a farmstead in this location were no longer extant. Beginning in about 1945, the Shields developed the area with a long rectangular concrete-block horse barn/shearing shed (Resource 52A); a one-story rectangular wood-frame partially metal-clad equipment barn (Resource 52B); a one-story barn/shearing shed (Resource 52C); and the large circular concrete Orchard House Complex cistern (Resource 52D), now known as the Foreman's House cistern. The concrete horse barn/shearing shed is composed of two interconnected portions. Similar to the large barn (Resource 3A) at the Headquarters Complex, the taller two-plus-story western horse barn has a corrugated-metal-clad gambrel roof with exposed rafter tails. The south façade has four consecutive bays. Overhead doors with a pulley system once enclosed each of the bays. The second level provides hay storage. Wood doors and shutters are painted green. Interior features of note are wood feed troughs and tack supplies. The squat one-story eastern shearing shed has a corrugated-metal-clad gable roof with gutters. The north facade has a wide opening with a sliding metal door and one window open that is covered with metal, and the south façade has two wide openings, each with a sliding metal door. The eastern façade has a single opening with a sliding metal door. Stealthy Ashe juniper posts support the long rectangular corrugated metal-clad barn/shearing shed. The saltbox roof with exposed rafter tails is also covered with corrugated metal. The long northern and southern façades have sliding corrugated metal doors at either end. Three adjacent agricultural fields (Resources 52K-52M) have been present since at least 1937, one with three rectangular concrete troughs (Resources 52H–52J) was terraced by 1942. These were used for hay production, grazing in the off season, eventually planted in Johnson grass, and in the 1980s, in haygrazer, a sorghum-sudangrass hybrid. One agricultural field (Resource 52L) was developed as an orchard by 1942. By 1967, the northern portion of the orchard was subdivided for a corn field (Resource 52M). To the west and south, an expansive agricultural field (Resource 56) was present by 1937, terraced by 1942, and enlarged by 1967. A well (Resource 57) is situated in this field. Noncontributing resources discussed separately, but part of this complex, are a horse pen (Resource 52G) that dates to the 1940s, but was modified in the 1990s, plus five modern resources, a concrete-block pump house, circular concrete cistern, and three domestic resources (Resources 52E, 52F, and 52N-52P). Also present, but minor and not individually assessed, are a metal fuel tank, metal water tank, concrete-capped water well pipe, electricity poles, animal-drawn hay rake, and ruinous concrete loading chute.

Cistern Complexes

Six remote and independent cistern complexes pump, store, and distribute water to livestock. A windmill or pump jack that propelled water from a well, one large concrete cistern for water storage, and a few smaller troughs typify these complexes. At each complex a system of buried steel pipelines distributed water from the cistern to troughs scattered in the vicinity. The ca.1940 cistern in the **Lower Chalk Knob Pasture** was the earliest-developed remote complex. It has a large circular concrete cistern (Resource 13A), two ca.1940 rectangular stone and concrete troughs (Resources 13B and 13C), a 1960s circular metal trough (Resource 13D), a ca.1940 rectangular foundation (Resource 13E), and a ca.1940 straight-lift pump jack (Resource 14). The 1940s **Rock House Pasture** cistern complex has a large circular concrete cistern (Resource 25A), a windmill (Resource 25B), and two circular concrete troughs (Resource 25C and 25D). The **Middle Pasture** cistern complex has a 1950s large circular concrete cistern (Resource 16A) and circular

concrete trough (Resource 16B), a 1940s circular concrete trough (Resource 16C), and windmill footings (Resource 16D). The 1952 Chalk Knob #1 well (Resource 8B) is near the 1946 concrete **Flint Knob Pasture** cistern (Resource 8A) (Figure 34). The ca.1955 **West Pasture** cistern (Resource 11A) with an associated cistern foundation (Resource 11B) and trough (Resource 11C) are all of concrete. The **Thousand Acre Pasture** has the most-recent cistern complex with a large circular concrete cistern (Resource 67A), windmill (Resource 67B), and two circular concrete water troughs (Resources 67C and 67D). As originally built, these cisterns were open-air, but by 2011, each had been resurfaced with concrete and had protective concrete covers installed. Although these windmills remain extant, none are operational and modern solar panel pumps supply power for reliable service.

Independent Agricultural Resources

A variety of independent agricultural property types distributed throughout the ranch supported livestock-raising activities. The smallest and most common of these types are related to water and feed. Troughs, receptacles for water or food, the latter sometimes protected with a gable-roof cover, are scattered around the ranch. Of three covered feed troughs on the ranch, one pair was built in the West Pasture in the 1940s (Resources 10A and 10B) and the others, in the Naumann (Resource 46A and 46B) and Griffin Pastures (Resources 60A and 60B), slightly later. A 1940s–1960s wood feed trough (Resource 55) and a rectangular concrete water trough (Resource 53A) are also in the Griffin Pasture. A 1950s circular concrete water trough (Resource 12) is in the Lower Chalk Knob Pasture. Feed and water sources, essential to any livestock operation, are large improvements with supporting structures. A 1940s one-story gable-roof Ashe-juniper-pole barn (Resource 21) with corrugated metal roof and cladding provides storage for an agricultural field of coastal Bermuda grass (Resource 22) that has been present since 1937. The 1950s drought inspired construction of earthen livestock ponds (Resources 51, 54, and 58).

Various types of enclosures contained livestock as they were rotated to different pastures for grazing or rounded up into smaller enclosures for any number of reasons, such as marking, shearing, inoculation, solution application, or castration. Although the ubiquitous and vast fenced grazing lands themselves are not individually assessed as resources, pens, traps, and representative smaller impediments within those pastures are included. Two 1940s–1960s wood-post livestock pens with V-wire (Resources 66 and 68A) are in the Thousand Acre Pasture. Near the latter pen are a later-built metal livestock pen (Resource 68D) and two nearby troughs, one rectangular concrete (Resource 68B) and one wood (Resource 68C) (Figure 35). A 1940s wood-post livestock pen with V-wire (Resource 26) is in the South Pasture. A 1940s–1960s livestock trap (Resource 17A), of wood and metal posts with V-wire, in the Middle Pasture has a metal gate (Resource 17B) that denotes numbers of head counts in the 1950s (Figure 36). A 1940s–1950s wood-post livestock trap with V-wire (Resource 35) is in the Lower Pasture. Smaller impediments to livestock movement are metal cattle guards (Resources 4 and 20) and a pair of surviving gate posts (Resource 44) associated with a farmstead that was built after 1937 but no longer extant by 1940. Since smaller livestock, like sheep and goats, could traverse a cattle guard, they required bump gates, with a central white-painted post. A noteworthy 1940s gate bears the escutcheon-shaped Shield family crest (Resource 33).

Recreational, Transportation, and Industrial Resources

A few recreational, transportation, and industrial resources are on the Shield Ranch. Two deer blinds—recreational resources—include a distinctive 1950s building (Resource 18) with a shed roof and exposed rafter tails built for Vera Gentry Shield and a 1960s wood-frame building (Resource 45) with a shed roof (Figure 37). Notable transportation resources are a ca.1942 earthen landing strip (Resource 23) and a stone and concrete low-water crossing (Resource 30) built between 1939 and 1941 (Figure 38). Industrial resources on the ranch are a ca.1960s electric transmission line that intersects the far east edge of the ranch (Resource 29). The Pedernales Electric Co-op originally built the 69-kV power line, which the Lower Colorado River Authority now operates, having upgraded it to 138-kV.

Noncontributing Resources

The minimal number (n = 36) and proportion (18 percent) of noncontributing resources on the Shield Ranch are typically more recently constructed, of modern construction, or altered. Small noncontributing resources are a hog/dog pen (Resource 3R), troughs (Resource 3T, 6F, 6G, 9, and 53B), solar panels (Resources 11D, 11E, 16E, 25E, and 67F), a playscape (Resource 28F), a trash area (Resource 28H), a gate (Resource 28L), , and a water tank (Resource 67E). Larger, but discreetly positioned, noncontributing resources are a garden (Resource 7), livestock trap (Resource 15), hunting cabin (Resource 24), cemetery (Resource 27), two cisterns (Resources 28R and 28S), single-family dwelling (Resource 28N), and mobile home, carport, and shed (Resources 52N-P). Dense foliage hides the cemetery, one of the cisterns, the dwelling, and the hunting cabin from most viewsheds. The other cistern, on the far east side of the Ranch House Complex, is concealed from most viewsheds between a barn and pump house. The mobile home, carport, and shed are distant and do not detract from the nucleus of historic components at this otherwise agricultural complex. Larger noncontributing resources that are not discreetly positioned are a silo (Resource 3Q), squeeze chute (Resource 3U), outbuilding (Resource 8C), pump house (Resource 52E), and cistern (Resource 52F). Although these are of modern construction, their functions are consistent with historical domestic and agricultural practices, and their suitable scale and proportion do not undermine the setting or feeling of the district. Noncontributing pens (Resources 3S, 28U, and 52G) and a loading chute (Resource 3V) remain in their original locations, but in the early 1990s, oil field pipe and sucker rods replaced the earlier-constructed wood palisade materials. The foreman at the time, Doug Kunze, an experienced welder, gradually rebuilt most of the palisade fences at the livestock complexes, starting with those at the Headquarters Complex, then the Sheep and Goat Complex, then the Ranch House Complex, and finally the Orchard House Complex. He likely applied his welding expertise to the hog/dog pen (Resource 3R), a trough (Resource 3T), a squeeze chute (Resource 3U), and a gate (Resource 28L). Minor modern features too small to include as resources that bear mention include walking trails and their markers; chimney swift towers and cowbird traps; push piles, ditch outs, and water bars; and the locations of El Ranchito camp activities (Figure 39). These features are the result of necessary property maintenance, conservation practices, or educational programming. In summary, these noncontributing resources are modest in number and scale and do not diminish the district's physical or historical integrity.

Identification and Evaluation Methods





Property Inventory

Small objects are not counted separately unless they are particularly important.

ID#	Name	Category	Property Type	Date	Status	
	Single-family dwelling—Later-Built					
1A	Foreman's House	Building	Domestic	by 1942/ca.2005	С	1A
					Not	
1B	Garage/carport	Building	Domestic	by 1942/ca.2005	counted	1B
_					Not	_
1C	Shed	Building	Domestic	ca.1970	counted	1C
1D	Root cellar	Structure	Domestic	ca.1970	С	1D
2A	Single-family dwelling—Original Foreman's House	Site	Domestic	by 1937	С	2A
2B	Foundation	Site	Domestic	by 1937	C	2B
2C	Well	Structure	Domestic	by 1937	C	2C
2D	Outhouse	Site	Domestic	by 1937	C	2D
3A	Horse barn—Headquarters Complex	Building	Agriculture	1941–1942	C	3A-01, 02
3B	Horse barn/chicken coop	Building	Agriculture	1941–1942	C	3B-01, 02
3C	Horse barn	Building	Agriculture	1941–1942	C	3C
3D	Equipment barn	Building	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	C	3D
3E	Cistern	Structure	Agriculture	1941–1942	C	3E
3F	Hog wallow	Structure	Agriculture	1939	C	3F
3G	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	C	3G
3H	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	C	3H
31	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	C	31
3J	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	3J
3K	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1941–1942	С	3K
3L	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	3L
3M	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	3M
3N	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	3N
30	Feed trough	Building	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	30P
3P	Feed trough	Building	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	30P
3Q	Silo	Structure	Agriculture	2004	NC	3Q
3R	Hog/dog pen	Structure	Agriculture	early 1990s	NC	3R
3S	Horse pen	Structure	Agriculture	1942/1990s	NC	3S
3T	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	early 1990s	NC	3T
3U	Squeeze chute	Structure	Agriculture	early 1990s	NC	3U
				1941–		
3V	Loading chute	Structure	Agriculture	1942/1990s	NC	3V
4	Cattle guard	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	4
- 4	Single-family dwelling—Headquarters	5		4044 4040	•	
5A	House	Building	Domestic	1941–1942	C	5A
5B	Outhouse	Site	Domestic	1941–4942	С	5B
5C	Smokehouse	Site	Domestic	1941–1942	C	N/A
6A	Barn/shed—Sheep and Goat Complex	Building	Agriculture	1941–1942	С	6A-01, 02, 03
6B	Livestock shed	Building	Agriculture	1941–1942	С	6B
6C	Livestock dipping vat	Structure	Agriculture	1941–1942	С	6C
6D	Livestock pens	Structure	Agriculture	1941–1942	С	6D
6E	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1941–1942	C NC	6E
6F	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1990s	NC	6FG

ID#	Name	Category	Property Type	Date	Status	
6G	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	2002	NC	6FG
7	Garden	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1975	NC	7
8A	CisternFlint Knob Pasture	Structure	Agriculture	1946	С	8A
8B	Well	Structure	Agriculture	1952	С	8B
8C	Outbuilding	Building	Agriculture	1990s	NC	N/A
9	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1990s	NC	9
10A	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	10AB
10B	Feed trough cover	Building	Agriculture	1940s	С	10AB
11A	CisternWest Pasture	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1955	С	11A
11B	Cistern foundation	Site	Agriculture	ca.1955	С	11B
11C	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1955	С	11C
					Not	
11D	Solar panel	Object	Agriculture	2010	counted	N/A
					Not	
11E	Solar panel	Object	Agriculture	2008	counted	11E
12	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s	С	N/A
13A	Cistern	Building	Agriculture	ca.1940	С	13AD
13B	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1940	С	13B
13C	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1940	С	13C
13D	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1960s	С	13AD
13E	Foundation	Site	Agriculture	ca.1940	С	13E
14	Pump jack	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1940	С	14
15	Livestock trap	Structure	Agriculture	1989	NC	15
16A	CisternMiddle Pasture	Structure	Agriculture	1950s	С	16A
16B	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s	С	16B
16C	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	16C
16D	Windmill (footings)	Site	Agriculture	1940s	С	16D
16E	Solar panel	Object	Agriculture	2010	NC	16E
17A	Livestock trap	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	17A
17B	Gate	Object	Agriculture	1950s	С	N/A
18	Deer blind	Building	Recreation	1950s	С	18
			Institutional/		_	
19A	Post Office/Store/41TV530	Building	Commercial	ca.1882	С	19A-01, 02
400	Single-family dwelling—Hallmann	0		4000	0	
19B	House/41TV530	Site	Domestic	ca.1882	С	N/A
19C	Stone fence/41TV530	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1882	С	19C
19D	Corral/41TV530	Site	Agriculture	by 1937	С	N/A
20	Cattle guard	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	20
21	Barn	Building	Agriculture	1940s	С	21
22	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	by 1937	С	22
23	Landing strip	Structure	Transportation	ca.1942	C	23 24
24	Hunting cabin	Building	Recreation	early 1990s	NC	
25A	CisternRock House Pasture Windmill	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	C C	25ABC
25B		Structure	Agriculture	1940s	C	25ABC
25C 25D	Water trough Water trough	Structure Structure	Agriculture Agriculture	1940s 1940s	C	25ABC 25D
					NC	
25E 26	Solar panel Livestock pen	Object Structure	Agriculture Agriculture	2006 1940s	C	25E
27	Cemetery	Site	Funerary	2018	NC NC	26 N/A
28A	Cemetery Single-family dwelling—Ranch House	Building	Domestic	1939/2012	C	28A
28B	Pump house	Building	Domestic	1939/2012	C	28BC
28C	Cistern	Structure	Domestic	1939–1941	C	28BC
28D	Playhouse	Building	Domestic	1939–1941	C	28D
28E	Dog kennel	Building	Domestic	1959=1941 1950s	C	28E
28F	Playscape	Structure	Domestic	2000s	NC	28F
28G	Yard fence	Structure	Domestic	1939–1941	C	28G
28H	Trash area	Object	Domestic	2012	NC	28H
281	Bell tower	Object	Domestic	1940s	C	28I
201	DOII IOWEI	Object	DOITIGGIIC	10703	J	۷۱

ID#	Name	Category	Property Type	Date	Status	
28J	Single-family dwelling	Site	Domestic	by 1930	С	28J
28K	Well	Structure	Domestic	1940s	С	28K
28L	Gate	Object	Agriculture	1990s	NC	28L
28M	Well	Structure	Domestic	1967	С	28M
28N	Single-family dwelling	Building	Domestic	2012	NC	N/A
	, ,					280-01, 02,
280	Barn	Building	Agriculture	early 1940s/2013	С	03
28P	Barn	Building	Agriculture	1939–1941	С	28P-01, 02
28Q	Pump house	Building	Agriculture	1960s	C	28Q
28R	Cistern	Structure	Agriculture	2012	NC	28R
28S	Cistern—Ranch House	Structure	Agriculture	2012	NC	N/A
28T	Fence	Structure	Agriculture	1939–1941	С	28T
28U	Livestock pen	Structure	Agriculture	1942/1990s	NC	28UVW
28V	Loading chute	Structure	Agriculture	1940s/1990s	С	28UVW
28W	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28UVW
28X	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28X
28Y	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28YZ
28Z	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28YZ
28AA	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28AA
28BB	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s	С	28BB
28CC	Single-family dwelling—Alvarez House	Site	Domestic	1939–1941	С	N/A
28DD	Outbuilding	Site	Domestic	1939–1941	С	N/A
28EE	Chicken coop	Site	Agriculture	1939–1941	С	N/A
29	Electric transmission line	Structure	Industry	1960s/1990s	С	N/A
30	Low-water crossing	Structure	Transportation	1939–1941	С	30
31	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A
32A	Log cabin/41TV1469	Building	Domestic	ca.1873/2013	С	32A
32B	Stone fence/41TV1469	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1873	С	32B
32C	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	ca.1873	C	32C
33	Gate	Object	Agriculture	1940s	C	33
34 35	Stone fence	Structure	Agriculture	1880s	C	34 35
35	Livestock trap	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1950s ca,1870/early	C	35
36	Low-water crossing	Structure	Transportation	1940s	С	36
30	Low-water crossing	Structure	Папъропацоп	ca.1870/early	C	30
37	Low-water crossing	Structure	Transportation	1940s	С	37
38A	Single-family dwelling	Site	Domestic	1870s	C	38A
38B	Stone fence	Structure	Agriculture	1870s	C	38B
38C	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1870s	C	N/A
	7 Igrioditar fiora	One-	rigiroditare	10700	Ŭ	14/7 (
41	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A
				ca.1870/early		
42	Low-water crossing	Structure	Transportation	1940s	С	42
43A	Single-family dwelling/41TV1468	Site	Domestic	ca.1874	С	43A
43B	Stone fence/41TV1468	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1874	С	N/A
43C	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	ca.1874	С	N/A
44	Gate posts	Object	Agriculture	1938–1939	С	44
45	Deer blind	Building	Recreation	1960s	С	45
46A	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1950s	С	46AB
46B	Feed trough cover	Building	Agriculture	1940s-1950s	С	46AB
47A	Single-family dwelling	Site	Domestic	1880s	С	47A
47B	Zigzag stone fence	Structure	Agriculture	1880s	С	47B
47C	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A
48	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A
49A	Single-family dwelling/41TV1466	Site	Domestic	ca.1907	С	49A
49B	Well/41TV1466	Structure	Domestic	ca.1907	С	49B
49C	Stone fence/41TV1466	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1907	С	49C

ID#	Name	Category	Property Type	Date	Status	
49D	Agricultural fields	Site	Agriculture	ca.1907	С	N/A
50	Stone fence	Structure	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A
51	Livestock pond	Structure	Agriculture	1950s	С	51
	Horse barn/shearing shed—Orchard					
52A	House Complex	Building	Agriculture	ca.1945	С	52A-01, 02, 03
52B	Equipment barn	Building	Agriculture	ca.1945	С	52B
52C	Barn/shearing shed	Building	Agriculture	ca.1945	С	52C
52D	Cistern—Orchard House	Structure	Agriculture	ca.1945	С	52D
52E	Pump house	Building	Agriculture	late 1990s	NC	52E
52F	Cistern	Structure	Agriculture	after 1995	NC	52F
52G	Horse pen	Structure	Agriculture	1945/1990s	NC	52G
52H	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1950s	С	52H
52I	Trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	521
52J	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	N/A
52K	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	by 1937	С	52K
52L	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	by 1937	С	52L
52M	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	1940s	С	N/A
52N	Mobile home—Orchard House	Building	Domestic	1994	NC	52NOP
520	Carport	Building	Domestic	late 1990s	NC	52NOP
52P	Shed	Building	Domestic	1960s	NC	52NOP
53A	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	53A
53B	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	2002	NC	53B
54	Livestock pond	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	54
55	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	55
56	Agricultural field	Site	Agriculture	by 1937-1960s	С	56
57	Well	Structure	Agriculture	1930s-1940s	С	57
58	Livestock pond	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	58
65	Wagon road	Structure	Transportation	ca.1870	С	65
66	Livestock pen	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	N/A
67A	Cistern—Thousand Acre Pasture	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	67A
67B	Windmill	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	67BEF
67C	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	67C
67D	Water trough	Structure	Agriculture	1950s-1960s	С	N/A
67E	Water tank	Structure	Agriculture	2010s	NC	67BEF
67F	Solar panel	Object	Agriculture	2008	NC	67BEF
68A	Livestock pen	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	68A
68B	Feed trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	68B
68C	Trough	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1960s	С	68C
68D	Livestock pen	Structure	Agriculture	1940s-1970s	С	68D
69	Stone fence	Structure	Agriculture	1880s	С	N/A

Statement of Significance

The 6,345.94-acre Shield Ranch Historic District, in southwest Travis County, Texas, and the largest privately held tract of land in the vicinity, is exemplary for its intact collection of nineteenth- and twentieth-century domestic and agricultural resources that represent the evolution of agricultural land use along the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau. After the Civil War, several families settled along waterways within their respective land grants and scratched out an existence farming and ranching. From 1882 to 1907, the Hallmann family owned more than 6,000 adjacent acres where they operated a livestock ranch and established a short-lived post office/store. From 1907 until 1930, the Olle brothers owned this land and used it as part of their extensive livestock operations. Between 1938 and 1946, Fred Weldon and Vera Mae Gentry Shield purchased the ranch, and their daughter, Patricia Ann Shield Ayres, and her family retain the property today. The Shields developed domestic complexes for themselves and ranch workers and livestock and cistern complexes for their ranching operations, which included cattle, American Quarter horses, sheep, and goats. For decades, the Shield family simultaneously improved the ranch for livestock operations while protecting the land's abundant and diverse natural and cultural resources. The Shield Ranch Historic District is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture and under Criterion D in the area of Archeology at the local level of significance. The district includes 160 contributing buildings, structures, sites, and objects that represent the period of significance, 1870 to 1970, and retain a high degree of physical and historical integrity. The start date of this one-hundred-year span accommodates the estimated construction date of the earliest resources on the property, three low-water crossings and a wagon road. Since no specific date readily defines the end of historical activities that continued to have importance on the Shield Ranch, the end date of 50 years ago is applied.

Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Settlement and Land Use

Early Settlement in Western Travis County

Settlement in western Travis County followed a different course than the more-populated eastern portion. Even though the county was established in 1840 and its seat, Austin, became the state capitol in 1845 with statehood, this area remained under settled. At the conclusion of the Mexican-American War in 1848, a chain of federal forts built to the west put a military force in place that pushed native groups away. Local lore indicates that Native Americans conducted raids in western Travis County through the Civil War. Although conflicts diminished, they lasted into the 1870s in the west-most parts of central Texas. The eastern portion of Travis County, with the bulk of the local population, was well shielded. There, feeling safe and seeking opportunity, the population soared, rising 158 percent between 1850 and 1860, another 63 percent between 1860 and 1870, and 105 percent between 1870 and 1880 (DeBow 1854; U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1864a, 1872a, 1883a). As important, physical barriers stifled development in the western part of the county. The eastern part had relatively rich soils, while western Travis County, on the hilly Edwards Plateau, had thin rocky soils and far fewer acceptable locations for growing feed or cash crops. For those who did improve their land with agricultural crops, transporting their yields to market was difficult, with limited and rough overland routes and regularly washed-out low-water crossings at the bends and oxbows of the Colorado River and its tributaries. As a result, settlement remained sparse in western Travis County throughout the nineteenth century, and land owners and tenants focused on livestock raising and limited crops to feed, such as corn, with only minor futile efforts at the cash-crop cotton. A sign of the small population was the lack of communities that developed in the vicinity before the latter part of the century. The beginnings of Oak Hill launched in 1856 along the Austin-to-Fredericksburg Road, Bee Cave began in about 1859, and Fitzhugh and Cedar Valley took hold just after the Civil War. These hamlets, however, each had fewer than a dozen families scattered nearby and did not represent more than crossroads with a school or a church, compared with the numerous small towns that dotted the eastern part of the county.

Families gradually settled on the land that would become the Shield Ranch. Patent dates for all or parts of more than 30 land grants in the historic district range from 1846 to 1907 (Figure 40). However, with a few exceptions, recipients who actually inhabited their land grants were most numerous in the late 1870s and the 1880s. Three men received land grants for arriving in the Republic of Texas before January 1840, and two men received them for their military service

in the Texas Revolution (Texas General Land Office 1846, 1847, 1862, 1863a, 1879a, 1879b). In sum, these land grants account for 3,641 acres. These were seldom settled by their owners, who were more likely to sell the land for profit. The remaining 4,947 acres were scrip lands (2,512 acres), school lands (1,955 acres), or preemption grants (480 acres) (Texas General Land Office 1851, 1863b, 1863c, 1863d, 1863e, 1864, 1876a, 1876b, 1878, 1879c, 1880, 1881, 1882a, 1882b, 1882c, 1886a, 1886b, 1887, 1897, 1902a, 1902b, 1907). Some of these surveys were also speculative, but several owners occupied their land. One of the earliest owner-occupant families was that of William J. and Martha J. Sanders. Joseph Judson and Mary Jane Ford Hyatt conveyed the 160-acre Hyatt Survey to the Sanders in 1873 for \$325 (Travis County, Deed Record 50:603) The Sanders occupied the land from 1873 to 1875 and may have built a log cabin (Resource 32A/41TV1469) there. That year and in 1874, their land was valued at \$300, suggesting the likelihood of improvements. The Sanders had two horses worth \$100, one bovine worth \$5, plus \$15 in miscellaneous assets (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records).

The Hyatt Survey and Log Cabin

The Hyatt Survey changed hands several times in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1875, the Sanders sold the land to August Joergins for \$325 (Travis County, Deed Record 30:565). In 1881, August and Melanie Doeppenschmidt Joergins married and conveyed the survey to her mother, Caroline Barbarich Cezeaux Doeppenschmidt (1830–1909), who was living in Austin with her second husband Phillip Doeppenschmidt (1818– 1884) in 1875 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Record; Travis County, Deed Record 49:637). In 1880, the Doeppenschmidts reported 25 improved acres in pasture and 145 unimproved acres of woodlands. Their farmstead was valued at \$400 and their implements at \$75. They had paid hired help \$60 in wages for 13 weeks of labor and had \$75 worth of farm products on hand for sale or their own consumption. The combined value of their 5 horses, 2 oxen, 9 dairy cows, 14 beef cows, 8 swine, and 12 chickens was \$270. The previous year, the Doeppenschmidts sold 2 calves, produced 100 pounds of butter, and had chickens lay 25 dozen eggs. Their crops included 10 acres of corn that produced 40 bushels, 7 acres of cotton that produced a single 400-pound bale, 2 acres of sweet potatoes that produced 42 bushels, and 6 peach trees (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880a). In 1885, the widowed Caroline Barbarich Cezeaux Doeppenschmidt conveyed the survey to Emil Wolber for \$500 (Travis County, Deed Record 59:208). In 1889, Emil and Flora Stacker Wolber sold the survey to Paul Fritz for \$500 (Travis County, Deed Record 87:630). In 1887, Fritz and Anna "Annie" Mary Freitag married and had four children in quick succession (Ancestry 1887; U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). Fritz was deceased by 1895, when his widow married German-born Frederick Fritz Haas (1843–1903), who had driven sheep from Colorado to Texas (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a; Haas 1990). In 1900, the family lived on her land, which Haas rented. A 21-year-old day laborer, probably a relative of hers, named Almond Freitag, and a 75-year-old Austrian-born servant, also lived with the family (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). The couple had two young children of their own, Frederick (1901–2003) and Agnes (1904–1993), but their mother was widowed again in 1903.

Frederick Haas had clear memories of the property, where he mostly lived until 1917.⁴ At the time, their one-room log dwelling (Resource 32A/41TV1469) had a wood-frame kitchen/dining room addition where the family ate on his mother's white dishes with blue flowers. The small building had two heat sources, a stone fireplace and a wood-burning stove with a roof vent. They had a log smokehouse and barns at the foot of the hill down near the road. Worms and weather easily damaged these ephemeral buildings. They had neither an outhouse nor running water, so they carried buckets of water from a spring on nearby Rocky Creek, the nearest source. The spring was near a lone cypress tree that Anna Mary Freitag Haas planted, according to her son, and its downstream progeny proliferated (Haas 1990). The Haas family raised livestock feed for their hogs, cattle, 2 to 4 mules, and up to 30 horses. They raised enough cotton on a field leased from "old man Wolber" to warrant a shed for seed storage. The family had a wagon, as no buggy could survive overland travel along rutted routes and uneven terrain to haul cotton to the closest gin at the time, either Oak Hill or Bee Cave. Haas recalled, "We used to build ditches to drain water off the fields every year to keep [them] from washing out. Used a scraper, a pair of mules, and a turning plow, and a pick and shovel." They plotted

⁴ In 1910, the twice-widowed Anna Mary Freitag Fritz Haas rented a farm in Coleman County where she resided with her six children (U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census 1910a).

their large garden about one-quarter mile away along Rocky Creek, near its confluence with Barton Creek, where the soil was preferable for the food crops they grew, including potatoes, onions, and beans. The Thomas Ivy Mallot family occupied the property in the late 1930s (Haas 1990). In 1939 and 1940, the Haas heirs sold the land to Gordon Louis and Sally Scheig, who conveyed it to Fred Weldon Shield (Dial 1993:119).

The Ray Family and Survey and the Trautwein Family

Another early settler was the widowed Alabama native Sarah Robbins Ray, who by 1875 had preempted 160 acres as the head of a family. In 1870, the 47-year-old and four of her children, ranging in age from 6 to 16, were living with her son-in-law and daughter, John and Martha Ray Stephens, and another son and his wife, William and Leana Ray, their infant daughter, and a 62-year-old New York-native and blind man, Noah Cummins, lived nearby (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1870). In 1879, Ray conveyed her land to Adolph Trautwein (Texas General Land Office 1880). The Baden-born Trautwein (1829–1917) had his own 374-acre land grant, a 608-acre scrip grant, both patented to him in 1882, and other land (Texas General Land Office 1882a, 1882b). Trautwein arrived in New York in 1849, joined the military, and was sent to Texas in 1850. He was discharged from Fort Belknap in 1855. He and the widowed Alsace-born Barbara Erhardt Stacker (1834–1927) married. She had three children from her previous marriage, and the couple had children of their own. Their farmstead included long low sheds for sheep, a large horse pen with zigzag rail fences, and other enclosures that stone or wood fences surrounded. Their horse pen had log cribs for feed corn. Besides their single-family dwelling, a separate building housed the family's young boys (Johnson 1956:142–147). In 1880, the Trautweins had 2 wagons valued at \$60, 35 equine worth \$350, 30 cattle worth \$150, 500 sheep worth \$1,000, and \$15 in miscellaneous assets. The following year, they had the same land and other assets, plus their sheep holdings had increased to 800 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Record). The property has an associated stone fence (Resource 32B) and an agricultural field (Resource 32C).

The Pogue Survey and Cooper Family

The earliest occupants of the 160-acre James Pogue Survey were Indiana-born William H. H. and Tennessee-born Mary Cooper. The couple, who had married and migrated to Texas via Missouri, lived on this survey in April 1874, according to neighbors Carl Beck and John Columbus Cade⁵ (Texas General Land Office 1881). In 1880, the Coopers had four children: 17-year-old Sarah, born in Missouri, and Texas-born 7-year-old Anna, 3-year-old Alice, and 1-year-old Albert B. (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880b). That year, they reported 17 improved acres in pasture and 143 unimproved acres of woodlands. Their farmstead was valued at \$500 and their implements at \$4. The combined value of their 1 horse, 2 oxen, 3 dairy cows, and 2 swine was \$52. The Coopers sold 2 calves and produced 100 pounds of butter. Their crops included 8 acres of corn that produced 10 bushels, 4 acres of cotton that produced a single 400-pound bale, and 3 peach trees (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880a). By 1881, the family had a second equine and 10 swine (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Record). The State of Texas patented the Pogue Survey to Cooper on November 1, 1881 (Texas General Land Office 1881). That day, the Coopers sold the land to Ernst J. Hallmann for \$425 (Travis County, Deed Record 50:528).

The Wolber and Rose Families

Less is known about other early settlers, but a wagon road (Resource 65) connected several to each other by about 1870. This road linked the log cabin (Resource 32A/41TV1469) to the ca.1874 Emil Wolber farmstead (Resource 43/41TV1468), the later ca.1907 Emil Wolber farmstead (Resource 49/41TV1466), the 1900s Ford family farmstead (Resource 62/41TV1499), and a cemetery (Resource 64/41TV1467) on land patented to Rebecca Belle Hunter Rose in 1876. The Wolbers owned the Hyatt Survey at one time, but their homesteads were on other proximate land. In 1880, German-born Emil (1848–1912) and native Texan Flora Stacker (1853–1946) Wolber had two young sons and lived in a house they built on the Cade Survey, which they had fenced (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880b).

⁵ Cade's paternal uncle was Benjamin Hale Cade, for whom Cade Hollow is named. The elder Cade resided in Travis County by 1860, started his family there in the 1870s, and had moved northward by 1891 (Ancestry 2018).

In 1880, they reported 35 improved acres in pasture and 125 unimproved acres of woodlands. Their farmstead was valued at \$1,200, although they had to spend \$150 on building or repair. Their implements were valued at \$95. They had \$125 worth of farm products for sale or their own consumption. The combined value of their 6 horses, 12 dairy cows, 18 beef cows, 25 swine, and 30 chickens was \$265. The previous year, the Wolbers sold 2 calves, slaughtered 1 calf, produced 125 pounds of butter, and had chickens lay 105 dozen eggs. They took a loss when 4 bovines died or strayed without being recovered. Their crops included 25 acres of corn that produced 80 bushels, 4 acres of cotton that produced a single 400-pound bale and 1 acre of sweet potatoes that produced 20 bushels (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880a). In 1900, their two younger children still lived with them (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). By 1907, the Wolbers had moved to a second location nearby, and a grandson lived with them in 1910 (U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor 1910a). Arkansas native Rebecca Belle Hunter (1845– 1904) and Sweden-born Charles Eberhard Rose (1836–1922) had married in her home state in 1866. He was a retail grocer in 1880 (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880b). By 1887 and as late as 1894, the Roses owned 15 parcels with more than 2,500 acres. In 1894, they owned 4 animal-drawn vehicles, 53 equine, 135 bovine, 10 swine, plus \$50 in implements and \$1,500 in merchandise (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records). The cemetery on their property has several graves, but only three that have been identified. The earliest burial was that of their nine-year-old daughter, Edwina Catharina "Birdie," who died in 1879. Phillip Doeppenschmidt, noted as insane in 1880, was buried there in 1884 (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880b). In 1883, Missouri-born Isaac Newton Hale (1853–1883) was interred in the cemetery after the fumes from dynamite blasting a well killed him accidentally. His widow, Elizabeth Cade, married her brother-in-law Jefferson D. Hale a few years later.

The Ernst J. and Johanna Schenk Hallmann Family and Ranch

Although the Ernst J. and Johanna Schenk Hallmann family only resided on their ranch for about five years, their imprint on the landscape is indelible. Hallmann (1844–1892), born in Kolberg or Colberg, Prussia, attended military university in Berlin and fought in the Austrian-Prussian War of 1866 (Austin Daily Statesman 1892:8). In 1867, he left his mother and sister and immigrated to the Manor, Texas, vicinity, where he opened a mercantile business that year and eventually owned a restaurant and saloon. Indicted for selling liquor inappropriately, he had traveled to the county seat at Austin to respond to the charges in July 1874. Starting home on the train, a terrible accident occurred. One version noted that Hallmann was attempting to embark a moving train and the other that he was jarred off the bottom step of a rail car when another detached rail car hit with great force. Dr. Weisselberg amputated the left leg to the hip immediately and, a few days later, the right foot above the ankle. Hallmann was understandably anxious, stating, that "to live without limbs would be worse than death" (Austin Daily Statesman 1892:8; Weekly Democratic Statesman 1874:3). Despite this adversity, he became a candidate for Travis County district clerk in January 1876, beating his opponent with 58 percent of the vote that year, and serving three consecutive terms (Austin Daily Statesman 1892:8; Travis County Bar Association 1940:39; Weekly Democratic Statesman 1876a:3, 1876b:2). His office was in the Travis County Courthouse, at the southeast corner of Mesquite Street (present-day Eleventh Street) and Congress Avenue, one block south of the Texas State Capitol (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1882). He was an upstanding citizen with memberships in the Knights of Honor's Concordia Lodge No. 2035 and the Sons of Hermann (Austin Daily Statesman 1892:8; Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1888). By his last term, in 1880, he resided in the boarding house of the widowed Fredericka Schenk with her two sons and five daughters, and six other boarders—a civil engineer and wife, dry goods merchant, clerk, accountant, and one servant—at the southwest corner of Hickory (present-day Eighth Street) and San Antonio Streets in Austin (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1882; U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1880b). On March 31, 1881, he and San Antonio-born Johanna Schenk (1850/1852–1944), Schenk's oldest daughter, married (Family Search 1881, 1944). The newlyweds likely lived at one of the two residential properties he owned in Austin, one valued at \$100 and the other at \$150 in 1881 and 1882 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records).

On the heels of resigning as district clerk, the Hallmanns relocated to southwest Travis County and began a sheep ranching endeavor (*Austin Daily Statesman* 1892:8). He had been buying land since 1879 and was grantee for more than 30 transactions for the next 12 years (Travis County, Deed Records). By 1880, Hallmann had acquired 14 mostly adjacent tracts from local landholders—among them the Coopers, Trautweins, Callesons, and Cades—totaling 5,985

acres valued at \$4,228, including two land grants in his own name (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records; Travis County, Deed Records 50:528, 51:334, 52:539, 67:242). His holdings varied somewhat, but the fixed corpus of their ranch encompassed the 1,476-acre McIntire Survey, 738 acres out of the Weldy Survey, the 640-acre Priest Survey, the 640-acre Rusk Transportation Company Survey, 503 acres out of the Swisher Survey, the 480-acre Reynolds Survey, the 421- and 295-acre Hallman Surveys, the 185-acre Calleson Survey, the 160-acre Ray Survey, the 160-acre Pogue Survey, and 105 acres out of the Royal Survey. From his ownership through the mid-1890s, most of this land never achieved a value of more than 50 cents an acre. Exceptions to this occurred by 1887, after the Hallmanns left the land, when the McIntire, Ray, Pogue, Calleson, and the larger of the two Hallmann Surveys, all of which had been enclosed with barb-wire fence, achieved a value of \$1 per acre. Nevertheless, the Hallmanns' singular most valuable property between 1880 and 1889 was always a 30-acre parcel out of the Gilbert Survey, north of Manor, that fluctuated from a value of \$1,000 in 1880, to \$500 between 1881 and 1883, and back to \$1,000 from 1887 to 1889 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records).

The timing of the Hallmanns ranching undertaking paralleled that of other agriculturists on the Edwards Plateau, where ovine populations were growing. In Travis County, the number of sheep increased from 9,765 in 1880 to almost 15,000 in 1890 (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1883b, 1895b). The Hallmanns sheep population shifted during this decade—700 in 1880, 250 in 1881, 500 in 1882, 700 in 1883 and 1887, and 500 in 1888. To support their operation, they typically owned 2 animal-drawn vehicles, likely wagons, but possibly buggies, but in 1883 they had 4 such vehicles for a total value of \$80. The number of horses they owned increased gradually, from 2 in 1880, to 3 in 1881, to 4 in 1882, to 6 in 1883, and then declined back to 2 again in 1887. The number of bovine they had fluctuated from 20 in 1880, to 8 in 1882, to 16 in 1883, and up to 20 again in 1887 and 1888. For a few years the family reported cash in their possession: \$200 in 1881 and 1882 and \$50 in 1883 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records).

The Hallmann post office/store was a 16-by-35-ft building (Resource 19A/41TV530), perched atop a high ridge on a 200-acre homestead parcel out of the 421-acre Hallmann Survey (Dial 1993:164–176; Perkins 2012:124; Texas General Land Office 1882c; Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Record; Travis County, Deed Records 34:137, 93:528). The Hallmanns' three children were likely born in their home (Resource 19B). Their first child, a son, died of lockjaw at 18 days old in 1882 and was buried in Austin's Oakwood Cemetery. Daughters Helene (1883–1911) and Hattie (1885–1909) survived to young adulthood before each being claimed by pneumonia (*Austin Daily Statesman* 1909:3; Family Search 1911; U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). From July 10, 1883, to January 28, 1885, Hallmann was postmaster of the Colberg Post Office, named for his birth place. When the post office was discontinued, mail was forwarded to the Oak Hill Post Office (*Austin Daily Statesman* 1892:8; Palm [1888]; U.S. Post Office Department 1883). Oral informants recalled their forebears describing the wood post office boxes and a general store that operated there (Dial 1993:167, 175). Colberg, reportedly located nearly equidistant between the Bee Cave and Cedar Valley communities, had two churches, a district school, cotton gin, steam gristmill, and 40 residents in 1884 (Perkins 2012:124; Palm [1888]; R. L. Polk and Company 1885, 1891; Smyrl 2019). However, no other archival sources corroborate the location or existence of these several buildings, businesses, institutions, or population.

Deeming the sheep ranching venture a failure, the family returned to Austin in 1885, but Hallman had problems paying the mortgage on some holdings, and a law suit brought against him by at least one note holder required him to take out additional deeds of trust to avoid forfeiture. He was ultimately able to retain all of the land and some livestock (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records; Travis County, Deed Records 33:402, 34:137, 94:116). From 1885 to 1886, Hallmann was an agent for the Lone Star Brewing Company office and vaults at 312 Congress Avenue, where the family also resided (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1886). From 1891 to 1892, when Hallmann and Charles Dorbandt manufactured and sold cigars at 1009 Congress Avenue, the family resided on Dam Boulevard (present-day Lake Austin Boulevard), on the north bank of the Colorado River, west of the city limits (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1892). On September 10, 1892, Hallmann conveyed six tracts of land, including their 200-acre homestead, to his wife. That day, the family came to town and Hallmann arranged for his wife and daughter to stay overnight with friends while he returned to their home. Before retiring, Hallmann requested his long-time barkeep August Ebensberger to wake him early the next morning so he could attend to business. Ebensberger found the 48-

year-old dead of an apparent overdose at about seven o'clock in the morning. Hallmann was in a chair with two empty 2-oz bottles of Bromidia, which he took for pain in his right leg, and an empty water glass on the floor by his side. The barkeep hurried to town to notify a local judge (*Austin Daily Statesman* 1892:8; Travis County Clerk 104:467).

For another 15 years, his widow Johanna Schenk Hallmann owned their ranch and lived in Austin. She moved regularly, while she still owned 1 acre out of the Gilbert Survey north of Manor that was heavily valued at \$650 (Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Records). From 1893 to 1894, she resided on the south side of the Austin Dam Railway, one-quarter mile east of the dam (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1894). From 1895 to 1896, she resided at 2106 Guadalupe Street (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1896). In 1900, she owned a home on Damway Drive where she resided with her daughters, mother, plus a brother, niece, and nephew (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). From 1903 to 1904, she lived at 507 East 15th Street with her daughters, and Helen was employed as a school teacher (Morrison & Fourmy Directory Company 1904). From 1905 to 1906, she resided at 206 East 3rd Street (Stephenson 1906). From 1906 to 1907, she resided at 208 West 14th Street, and daughter Hattie, a milliner for Miss Theis, boarded with her mother (Stephenson 1907), By 1909, Hallmann had purchased the house at 423 Goliad Street in San Antonio. Her teacher daughter lived with her until her 1911 death (Appler 1909; Family Search 1911; U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census 1910b). The widowed Hallmann continued to occupy the house through at least 1920, when her younger music teacher sister, also a widow, lived with her (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1920a). By 1930, Hallmann resided at the Altenheim in Kerr County and remained there until her 1944 death (Family Search 1944; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1930a, 1940a).

The Olle Ranch

From 1907 to 1938, much of the land that became the Shield Ranch changed hands a few times with little known about its use or occupants. In September 1907, the Hallmann heirs sold five parcels totaling 2,402 acres to the Pilot Knobbased Olle brothers, Theodore Otto (1871–1929), Alvin Conrad (1876–1931), and Oswald Ernest (1881–1955), for \$3,700 (Find A Grave 2009a, 2009b, 2009c; Travis County Clerk 216:622, 455:566). In 1917, the Olle brothers purchased the neighboring Cade and Wolber properties. Born in Texas to native German parents, these men and their families are buried in the Salem Lutheran Church cemetery east of Pilot Knob (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900a). Together the brothers owned hundreds of acres in Travis County until at least 1930 (Travis County Clerk 455:566; Travis County, Ad Valorem Tax Record). In 1915, Chester Thrasher purchased this property, but the land had reverted to the Olle brothers by 1924 (Travis County, Deed Record 455:63). How the Olle brothers used the land as part of their operations remains unclear with a few exceptions. For a time, they wintered 50 to 80 mules on the land. During their ownership, the post office/store was tenant occupied for a time, but the Olles' families never occupied the land themselves (Dial 1993:175; Travis County, Deed Record 426; 61, 455:63).

The 1930s

During the decade of the 1930s, ownership of the property turned over a handful of times. In September 1930, the Olles sold the ranch to Alexander Chalmus Roberts of Caldwell County (Travis County, Deed Record 455:566). The property passed between Roberts and his two sons in the early 1930s, and the younger generation conveyed the 4,372.98 acres back to their parents in May 1934 (Travis County, Deed Record 506:119). In August 1935, Roberts and wife Anna Lucy Brown Roberts conveyed the land to San Antonian Chester C. Tribble, trustee for the La Mesa Land and Cattle Company (Travis County, Deed Record 529:182). In June 1938, the company acquired another 1,000 acres from Lucille Sneed Stedman of Fort Worth (*The Austin Statesman* 1938a:A4). Tribble leased a portion of the property to the Lower Colorado River Authority to board a substantial number of mules used for the construction of Marshall Ford Dam, now known as Mansfield Dam, beginning in 1937 (Eckols 1989). In July 1938, Tribble, on behalf of La Mesa Land and Cattle Company, conveyed the land to Fred Weldon Shield. By this time, the ranch encompassed the Hallmann, Trautwein, Wolber, and Cade properties, plus 1,000 adjoining acres (*The Austin Statesman* 1938b:11). The post office/store was tenant occupied at the time (Eckols 1989). From 1940 to 1946, the Shields acquired five additional adjacent parcels totaling 1,337 acres (Shield/Ayres/Bowen Family 2018:32).

The Shield Ranch

Fred Weldon Shield (1898–1987) was one of four surviving children born to Mississippian Robert Franklin A. and native Texan Rachel Anna "Annie" Weldon Shield in Old Milburn, McCulloch County, where the family had a small farm in 1900. His maternal grandparents also resided on the farm that year (U.S. Department of the Interior, Census Office 1900b). The Shield family still farmed on their land in 1910 (U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census 1910c). By 1920, Shield boarded at a house in Tyler and worked as a railroad office store clerk (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1920b). Vera Mae Gentry (1905–1962) was born in Nocona to William Virgil and Myrtle Reagan Gentry, who had married in 1903 in Montague County (Ancestry 1903). She was raised in Abilene, but by 1920 resided in Montague County on a rented farm with her mother's family—an uncle, an aunt, and her widowed grandmother (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1920c). In early December 1928, she sold a house she owned in Abilene to her aunt, only a few years older than she, for \$950 (The Abilene Morning News 1928:13). On December 27, 1928, Fred Weldon Shield and Vera Mae Gentry married in Fredericksburg. In 1929, they resided in San Angelo, where he worked as an oil operator (John F. Worley Directory Company 1930). By 1930, they resided at 1620 Kings Highway in San Antonio, which they rented for \$80 monthly. He was a landman and she was a nurse anesthetist (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1930a). In 1933, they adopted a daughter, Patricia Ann. In 1940, the Shields owned their home at 220 West Elsmere Place and resided there with their young daughter and an African American maid (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1940a). They eventually moved to a larger home at 100 Alameda Circle in Olmos Park. Shield rose to prominence in his career as a wildcatter and an independent oilman and producer and served in leadership roles on several diverse boards and commissions. For example, he was chairman of the Texas Mid-continent Oil and Gas Association in 1946; chairman of the Independent Petroleum Association of America from 1948 to 1949; on the 160member board of the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association in 1953; co-chairman of the State Prison Rodeo committee in 1957; and a non-director shareholder of Herbert D. Kelleher and Rollin King's fledgling Air Southwest Company in 1967 (The Austin Statesman 1953:A16, 1957:A5, 1967:B23; Oil & Gas Investor 2004:51). One of his most important contributions was as a governor-appointed member of the Texas Board of Corrections, which he served on from 1953 to 1959 (Texas Department of Corrections 1977:6). The Shields shared an enthusiasm for hunting and fishing and instilled appreciation for the outdoors in their daughter (Figures 41 and 42). She attended Saint Mary's Hall School in San Antonio, where she was president of the Spanish Club and participated in other activities (Figure 43). After high school graduation, she went to Wellesley College, one of the Seven Sisters Colleges on the East Coast. In 1955, she and Robert Moss Ayres Jr. (1926–2018) wed. Ayres had studied at the San Antonio Academy and Texas Military Institute and served in the navy at the end of World War II. After the war, he attended the University of the South where he received an undergraduate degree in economics, pursued graduate studies at the University of Oxford, and received a master's degree in business from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania (San Antonio Express-News 1955:4F; San Antonio Light 1955:7C).

Ranch Foreman, Horace Eckols

Before they purchased the ranch, the Shields made a beneficial and enduring connection with Horace Eckols. In the spring of 1938, they visited the property with Chester C. Tribble, a fellow San Antonian who founded a successful outdoor advertising firm and owned 1,400 acres plus a 600-acre pasture on the south side of Barton Creek and a 1,700-acre pasture to the east with one or two 30- to 40-acre livestock traps, although his more substantial holdings were in Webb County (Eckols 1989; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1930a). During their visit, the Shields camped in a pasture and fished on the creek with Horace Toms Eckols (1908–1991), who had been in Tribble's employ since December 1935. Initially, Eckols resided in a pre-1930 dwelling (Resource 28J) with a dirt floor and no electricity while he managed approximately 1,000 goats, 200 sheep, and a few dozen scrub cattle on the property (Eckols 1989). For 56 years, from his start in 1935 under the former owner until his 1991 death, the foreman was a highly esteemed employee. In about 1931, Eckols and Lola Edna Watson (1911–1999) married. She did not initially reside on the ranch with her husband, preferring to wait for more modern accommodations, which Tribble had built by 1937 (Resources 2A–2D). In 1936, the couple had a son, Sherman, and in 1940, under the Shields' ownership, the

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Eckols rented the house for \$7 monthly (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1940b).

Developing the Shield Ranch for Family and Agriculture

The Shields developed their land as both a rural haven where the family could hunt, fish, ride horses, and explore, and as a working livestock ranch. From 1938 through the 1940s, the ranch burst with new construction activity as the Shields added improvements. Important transportation structures under construction were a landing strip for small aircraft (Resource 23), a new low-water crossing (Resource 30) and sturdy masonry structural supports at existing low-water crossings (Resources 36, 37, and 42), and added or improved existing through roads to access the 20 subdivisions of pastures and traps they had created (see Figure 10). Eckols supervised road construction, following the survey work that Shield had contracted. Portable generators were in use when construction got under way, but by the time World War II started, the Pedernales Electric Cooperative's transmission line extended to the ranch, facilitating the construction process (Eckols 1989).

Water Resources

Being an oil man, digging water wells on the ranch was an obvious pursuit for Shield. Considering his occupation, he knew well enough that the subsurface geology was not likely to yield petroleum products. Because of his business, Shield had ready access to drilling rigs at affordable prices and had several water wells dug on the ranch. As he did for his oil business, Shield kept logs on specifics about the wells. From successful water wells, he established six remote and independent cistern complexes to pump, store, and distribute water for livestock. These complexes each have a large cistern connected by underground pipes to attendant water troughs. The earliest of these is the ca.1940 cistern complex (Resource 13) in the Lower Chalk Knob Pasture, which has a square stone cistern, two stone water troughs, and, instead of a windmill, a straight-lift pump jack, another practical benefit from Shield's experience in the oil business. The other five complexes, which have concrete cisterns and concrete or metal water troughs, are in the Chalk Knob Pasture (Resource 8), West Pasture (Resource 11), Middle Pasture (Resource 16), Rock House Pasture (Resource 25), and Thousand Acre Pasture (Resource 67). The windmills at four of these complexes—Middle, Rock House, Thousand Acre, and West Pastures—were converted to solar power between 2006 and 2010. Of the Chalk Knob well, dug to 928 ft in June 1952, Shield later noted, "I have had [this well] in production all through the long drought and it never seemed to deteriorate in any way" (Ayres 2016).

Domestic Complexes

New construction was devoted to three domestic complexes with single-family dwellings and related outbuildings and structures. Built by 1942, the Later-Built Foreman's House (Resource 1), near the main entrance to the Shield Ranch, is now known as the Gate House. The complex has a modest L-plan single-family dwelling (Resource 1A) and garage/carport (Resource 1B) of hollow-clay-tile block, plus a ca.1970 shed (Resource 1C) and root cellar (Resource 1D). The Headquarters House (Resource 5), built between 1941 and 1942, was home to the ranch's cowboy employees, most notably the Paul and Estelle Anderson Herrera family from the 1940s to 1965. Herrera was a horse trainer and assisted with other livestock-related work. By the 1980s, foreman Horace Eckols used the house for storage. In the late 1980s, it became management space for the ranch's hunting program. Since 2000, the house has been known as the Ranch Office. The complex has a minimally Craftsman-influenced single-family dwelling (Resource 5A), outhouse site (Resource 5B), and smokehouse site (Resource 5C). The Ranch House is the most densely developed domestic complex on the property. The Shields demolished the farmstead that had been in this location by 1937 and replaced it with two sets of domestic resources. The smaller complex (Resources 28CC–28EE), home to the Luis Alvarez family for many years, was demolished sometime after 1995. The larger complex has a rambling one-story Ranch Style single-family dwelling (Resource 28A), a pump house (Resource 28B), a cistern (Resource 28C), a playhouse (Resource 28D), and various smaller structures and objects, all surrounded by a white picket fence (Resource 28G). The Shields designed the house themselves with no architect involved, according to Patricia Shield Ayres. They placed the main dwelling near a small motte of young oak trees, and the canopy grew to tower majestically over the complex. Her parents, especially her mother, would hire laborers of Mexican descent in

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San Antonio and drive them to the ranch to work construction projects. These laborers would stay for at least several days or a few weeks at a time, camping on the land, and she would drive them back again. The dwelling's rambling extended linear façades, typical of Ranch Style design, embrace a rusticism evocative of Depression-era architectural influences that Civilian Conservation Corps projects embraced. A remote stone shed-roof deer blind (Resource 18) with exposed rafter tails built for Vera Gentry Shields incorporated this same rusticism.

Landscape Developments for Livestock Ranching

Simultaneously, projects geared toward ramping up livestock operations on the ranch were underway. Brush eradication began immediately to improve range lands for livestock and wildlife. One acre at a time, laborers of Mexican descent cleared a 1,400-acre parcel and a 1,700-acre parcel, by chopping the scrub and Ashe juniper with double-bladed axes and burning the refuse. By 1942, bulldozers had completed clearing the Thousand Acre Pasture (Figure 44). In 1947, 1,500 acres were bulldozed to clear Ashe juniper (*The Eagle* 1949:5). Native grasses could thrive and came back steadily, but to expedite the process, foreman Eckols used a cyclone seeder to plant a mix of big and little bluestem, buffalo, sideoats grama, dallisgrass, and Bermuda grasses on 2,000 acres between 1946 and 1948 (*The Eagle* 1949:5; Eckols 1989). A jeep and trailer were used to distribute a mixture of seed, superphosphate, and barnyard manure in stump holes and other depressions during rainy weather. The Travis County Extension Agent noted that the Shield Ranch was an excellent example of enriching range vegetation with a well-planned improvement program (*The Eagle* 1949:5). During World War II, the Travis County Extension Agent guided erosion prevention efforts, and, where there was crop land (Resources 21, 52K, and 56), laid off guide rows along the contours to create terraces. Shield then hired earth-moving machinery to build the terraces (Eckols 1989). Agricultural fields (Resources 52K and 56) present by 1937 on the west side of the ranch were substantially enlarged for feed crops and also terraced.

With this work in progress, the ranch could sustain more and healthier livestock. Between 1940 and 1950, the Shields established a full-scale livestock ranch with cattle, sheep, goats, registered American Quarter horses, and a dryland hay operation for feed. When Shield purchased the land, Tribble moved his own goats, but the sale included the scrub cattle, which Shield sold before purchasing about 50 more-robust bovine (Eckols 1989) (Figure 45). In November 1940, foreman Eckols and one of his younger brothers, Clarence, purchased 1,000 goats for the Shield Ranch (San Antonio Express 1949:1; San Antonio Light 1940:7). In 1946, the Eckols' son Shermon showed a champion doe in Fredericksburg for the Shield Ranch, and the following year the ranch had a goat kid compete in the local Cedar Valley livestock show (The Austin American 1947:7; Fredericksburg Standard 1946:1). By 1949, the ranch had 2,000 goats, 1,500 sheep, 200 beef cattle, and two to three dozen horses (*The Eagle* 1949:5). The commercial cow/calf operation meant only bulls were registered, and the sale of calves, less those held back as replacement heifers, produced income. Annual branding was limited to 15 to 20 replacement heifers since the burn wounds were subject to infestation by screw worms; all other livestock were tagged. Shield had a zeal for horses and in 1943, purchased his most outstanding horse, Traveler, a registered American Quarter horse. The horse was three years old when Shield bought him from the Hallettsville sheriff. He also bought Traveler's mother and a sister. Traveler placed in a few races around Texas and won five awards in 1945: grand champion at the 1945 Caldwell County Quarter, the South Texas Annual, and the San Antonio Fall horse shows; first place at the Hays County livestock show; and third place at the Eagle Pass livestock show (The Cattleman 1946:56). Traveler was raised as a using horse with skill sets as both ranch or rodeo horse and show or race horse. Shield kept bird dogs on the ranch during the summer but hunted them elsewhere. Eckols kept canines, usually Running Walker Foxhounds, trained to keep fox and coyote away (Eckols 1989).

Livestock Complexes

The Shields had four livestock complexes developed, three mixed-use and one devoted to sheep and goats. A mixed-used livestock complex (Resource 28) with two barns is adjacent to the Ranch House. The smaller stone barn (Resource 28P) was built right away, along with a palisade fence (Resource 28T) surrounding its related pens. The later-built barn (Resource 28O) was considerably more spacious and modern, built of hollow-clay-tile block. Between 1939 and 1941, they built the mixed-use Headquarters complex (Resource 3)close to the ranch's main entrance on the

site of a former farmstead. The earliest resources in this cluster include three barns (Resources 3A–3C), a keyhole-shaped hog wallow (Resource 3F), and a large stone cistern (Resource 3E). The most impressive of these barns is a two-plus-story gambrel-roof horse barn (Resource 3A). Patricia Shield Ayres noted that her mother's photographs of Dutch barns inspired the gambrel-roof design, although foreman Eckols believed that the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas had some involvement. The hollow-clay-tile blocks for the barn were made in Elgin (Eckols 1989). A remnant of their time on the ranch, the children of horse trainer Paul and Estelle Anderson Herrera wrote on the barn's interior walls, especially daughter Dorothy, but also her older brothers, Paul Anthony and Charles, and younger sister Sharon also contributed. The third ca.1945 mixed-use complex (Resource 52) on the west side of the ranch, was also the site of a former farmstead. The west side of the Orchard House Complex horse barn (Resource 52A) is similar to the Headquarters barn (Resource 3A) but has a long one-story east portion that is a shearing shed. Other early buildings in this cluster are an equipment barn (Resource 52B), barn/shearing shed (Resource 52C), and cistern (Resource 52D).

Between 1941 and 1942, the Shields had a Sheep and Goat Complex (Resource 6) built near the main entrance and south of the Headquarters complex (Resource 3). Composed of a long barn (Resource 6A), shed (Resource 6B), and associated pens (Resource 6D), the focus of the complex is a keyhole-shaped dipping vat (Resource 6C) within the shed made specifically for sheep and goats. Dipping, usually with a coal-tar-creosote mixture of 10 pounds of wettable sulfur to 100 gallons of water, staved off ticks and the contagious diseases they spread (Salmon et al. 2018:11). Two dips within an 11-day window were recommended at the time (Babcock 1942). Several animals would be guided to the 850-gallon round portion of the vat, submerged about four times with moments between each dunk to catch their breath, allowed to walk up the steps with dipping solution flowing off their bodies and back into the vat, and directed out of the building. Shearing took place in mid-March and early September when a crew of Mexican descent, a man and his sons, would bring their equipment trailer to the ranch. Paid three cents a head for goats and five cents a head for sheep, the workers operated a gasoline-powered shearing machine and shaved the animals on a concrete slab. They hung a large sack from a hook and stuffed it as full as possible with wool or mohair (Eckols 1989). In August 1965, Shield was top buyer of bucks at the Texas Angora Goat Raisers annual sale with a purchase of 20 of the 127 animals on the block (Figure 46). In sum, buyers paid \$11,980, or an average of just more than \$93 each, for these bucks (San Antonio Express-News 1965:17).

Sheep and Goat Ranching on the Shield Ranch

The Shields launched their sheep and goat operation at a propitious time in the wool and mohair industries. Livestock production on the Edwards Plateau peaked between 1930 and 1945, with the exception of the hindering 1930s drought (Wilcox et al. 2012:315). Sheep and goat raising was ideal on the Edwards Plateau where thin rocky soils had little potential for crop production and the animals were adaptable to the rugged broken terrain, brush vegetation, relatively mild dry winters, and lack of natural predators (Barnett 1987:349, 362). The Shield Ranch, at the eastern edge of this region, was suited to these pursuits, while areas to the west, with higher percentages of brushy species available for foraging, were superlative. Texas sheep peaked at 10 million in 1940, with a second peak in 1950 that corresponded with wool needs related to the Korean War (Merrill 1987:201). Trends for Angora goats and their mohair differed from those of sheep and their wool (Carlson 1982:200). Angora goats had been in Texas since the late 1850s, but their numbers remained small until after the turn of the century. Membership in the American Angora Goat Breeders Association increased after its 1898 Kansas City, Missouri, founding, with the greatest proportion of members resided in Texas (Shelton 1993). Before 1900, Texas far outdistanced other states in goat and mohair production, and by 1900, 40 percent of Angora goats were in either Texas or New Mexico (Carlson 1982:200; Shelton 1993). Texas produced 71 percent of the country's mohair in 1910, 79 percent in 1920, and 84 percent from 3.3 million goats in 1930 (Carlson 1982:200; Merrill 1987:201). After 1945, livestock on the Edwards Plateau declined by almost 70 percent, with sheep and goats experiencing the greatest drop. Even so, between 1948 and 1980, 95 percent of the country's mohair came from the Edwards Plateau (Shelton 1993; Wilcox et al. 2012:315). A common misconception is that goats stocked in sufficient numbers controlled the spread and re-encroachment of the thick bristly brush they grazed, which allowed for more grass and potentially improved range conditions for cattle. However, they typically ate everything, decreasing diversity of browse species and nutritional forage for livestock and wildlife, thereby degrading range conditions

overall. Thus, ranchers like the Shields gained advantage running a combination of cattle, sheep, and goats since these species did not compete with each other for their preferred vegetation. Further, a diversification strategy benefited ranchers since neither the wool nor mohair markets correlated to beef prices.

World War II was a windfall to sheep and goat raisers in Texas and, by extension, Travis County and the Shield Ranch. The state averaged more than 3.66 million goats clipped at an average price of 54 cents per pound of mohair in the early 1940s (A. H. Belo Corporation 1944:160). In 1943, the federal government-imposed regulations that guaranteed purchase of wool on hand and the next clip as well, but also instituted quotas on domestic use. The Commodity Credit Corporation set prices and supervised purchases from April 1943 to March 1947 (Carlson 1982:207). This helped offset decreased demand from the military when the Department of Defense turned to cheaper supplies in South Africa and the post-war popularity of synthetic fibers (Carlson 1982:210). A disastrous winter in 1949, price ceilings in the early 1950s, and the 1950s drought discouraged livestock raisers into the 1960s. Even with this decline, Texas produced 97 percent of the nation's more than 32 million pounds of mohair in 1965. That year, the state had its largest annual clip on record with more than 4.6 million goats (Carlson 1982:211). Western Travis County, on the far eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, paralleled the state experience on a smaller scale. The number of sheep and goats increased through 1945 and then declined (Table 4). In 1959 and 1964, of an average of 150 farms reporting goats in Travis County, half had fewer than 100 head, fewer than 20 farms had 500 head or more, and only one farm had more than 2,000 head. The Shield Ranch was in the upper echelon of holdings with about 1,000 head during this period. Although nine other neighboring Edwards Plateau counties had double or more goats, Travis County still had 33,215 goats in 1959 and 35,613 in 1964. Meanwhile, after 1945, the number of local sheep steadily declined, with one last burst in 1959 (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census 1959, 1967).

Sheep and Goats in Travis County

Year	Sheep	Goats
1910	8,284	2,242
1920	4,737	3,195
1930	16,799	24,576
1940	20,863	25,443
1945	27,057	41,573
1950	14,236	24,188
1954	16,731	37,788
1959	19,444	33,215
1964	9,715	35,613

Numerous independent agricultural resources that the Shields had built also supported livestock-raising activities. These include several small and large independent structures for feeding, watering, and enclosing livestock. The smallest of these are troughs (Resources 10, 12, 46, 53, 55, and 60), receptacles for food and water. Larger resources that supported livestock-raising activities includes a field of coastal Bermuda grass (Resource 22) for feed with a proximate hay and equipment shed (Resource 21), and three earthen livestock ponds (Resource 51, 54, and 58). Enclosures to restrict movement or contain livestock rounded up for marking, shearing, or inoculation are as minor as a cattle guard (Resources 4 and 20) or sizable pens or traps (Resources 17, 26, 35, 66, 68A, and 68D).

Mid-Twentieth-Century Planning and Difficulties on the Shield Ranch

Although it is unclear how much of it was implemented, Shield worked with the Soil Conservation Service to develop a conservation plan for the ranch in the 1950s. The plan reported on the status of various ranch attributes. At the time, the ranch had 6,561 acres of rangeland, 247 acres of cropland, 4 acres of wildlife area, and 15 acres for headquarters, for a total of 6,827 acres. Wells and livestock ponds supplemented the creeks for water sources, and Shield intended to build more ponds in the West, Middle, and Lower Pastures. Livestock included registered Santa Gertrudis bulls, a few

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registered American Quarter horses, registered Angora billie goats, and some sheep. To best conserve resources, the plan called for deferred grazing with each pasture given a rest period of at least 90 days every few years, and one or two pastures deferred for an entire growing season to insure maximum growth and seed production. The plan advised that restricting the number of livestock such that their grazing was limited 50 percent of one year's growth, the remainder left to form ground litter would increase soil fertility. The plan encouraged nominal range seeding of bluestem. To prevent erosion, the plan recommended maintaining the terracing already present on 233 acres of cropland. The plan proposed rotation hay and pasture in three fields—upper, middle, and lower—totalling 112 acres, 94 percent of which were in the Conservation Reserve Soil Bank Program. Since Buffel grass results were poor, Johnson grass was considered a viable substitute for the upper field. Johnson grass could sufficiently provide ample coverage, make good hay, resprout in the spring, and be grazed after having was complete until the first freeze when it became toxic to cattle. A terrace interval of coastal Bermuda grass was proposed for the center field, and Blue Panic grass and sorghum almum for the lower field. Future planting suggestions included more Johnson grass and dryland alfalfa for hay or grazing. Recommendations for cover crops included close-growing sorghum, Hubam clover, and small grains, like oats or winter wheat, for hay or supplemental grazing. The plan proposed a peach orchard with winter peas or vetch as a winter cover crop. The depth of plowing and fertilization with high phosphate analysis fertilizer for cover crops and high nitrogen for grass crops was advised for improved crop residue utilization. Finally, the plan addressed a 4-acre wildlife area to supply ground birds with nesting space and small mammals with camouflage. Strategies for their safeguard included protecting the area from fire and restricted grazing, and, during emergencies, providing artificial food to wildlife. If under- or over-population of birds or mammals became a burden, the plan recommended hunting or its restriction to control these situations (Shield 1953).

The 1950s and early 1960s were difficult. Efforts to plan for the ranch and ensure adequate food and water for livestock proved beneficial, but nothing could thwart the devastating 1950s drought. "The time it never rained" hit all of Texas from 1950 to 1957. Both Rocky and Barton Creeks went dry in 1956. The drought ended in April 1957 with a record-breaking flood on the creeks. Even with the drought, foreman Eckols described the land as "pretty clean," but the flood washed upstream environmental detritis, especially wild carrots and cockle burrs, down to the ranch. According to Eckols, cockle burrs mostly came from hay brought in from elsewhere during the drought, but the flood provoked seed-spread badly enough to consider getting out of sheep and goat ranching (Eckols 1989). Although the drought had passed, the summer of 1962 hit the family hard. On June 18, Vera Gentry Shield died suddenly. That morning, she had driven her jeep from the Ranch House to Barton Creek to fish and had a heart attack. When she did not return home as expected, ranch workers sought and found her later that evening with her fishing rod and faithful dog nearby. In San Antonio, she was memorialized for her participation in the Battle of the Flowers Association and the Military Civilian Club, and for her leadership role as first president and lifetime member of Planned Parenthood (*The Austin Statesman* 1962:1; *San Antonio Express* 1962:7A). A little more than a month later, after 28 rain-starved days, a raging wildfire seared some 3,000 acres south of Barton Creek, including a large portion of the Shield Ranch (see Figure 35) (*The Austin American* 1962:A1).

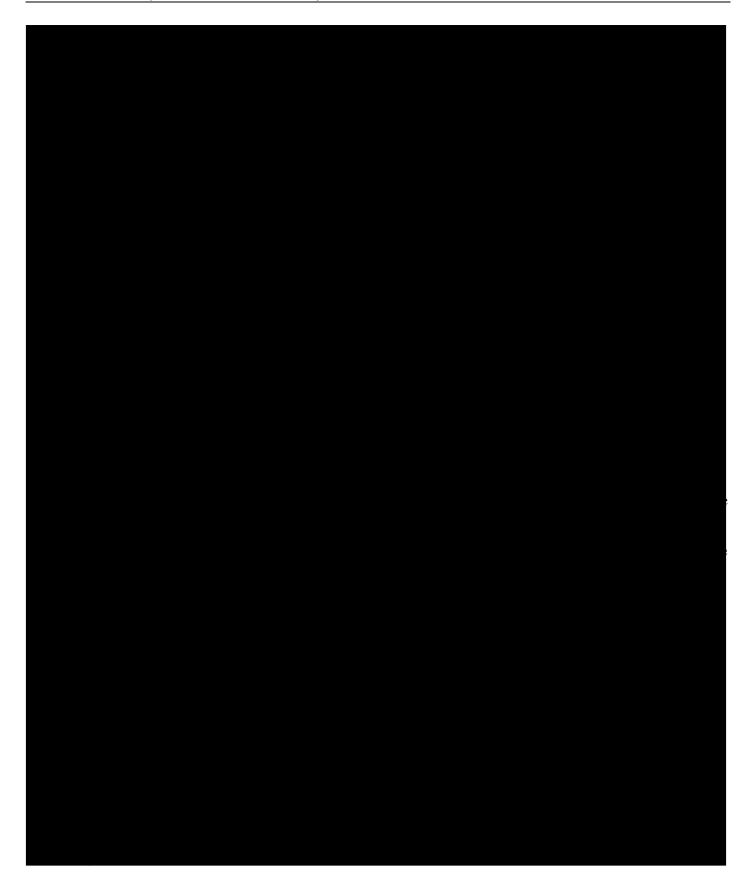
By the 1960s through the late 1980s, ranch activities followed a pattern of maintenance with limited improvements. In the early 1960s, Shield ceased his sheep and goat operation, based on decreased prices and the havoc that increased cockle burrs and predators, especially coyotes, caused. Although haying operations and a pecan-grafting venture were in full swing throughout the decade, overall agricultural production became less intensive. Ashe juniper management was ongoing, and the focus tended toward managing wildlife and improving habitat and rangeland. From the 1970s to the late 1980s, wide-ranging gradual shifts occurred. For example, haygrazer was planted in place of Johnson grass, which had suffered from both drought and hard winters. Boundary and interior fences were reconstructed, replacing net wire with five-strand barbed wire. Outside forces, like the increasing high-density deer population and burgeoning nearby residential and commercial development, impacted the ranch in the late twentieth century.

Conclusion

In the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, conservation and education have been and continue to be principal goals for the Shield Ranch. In July 1987, the family learned of a proposed outer highway loop around Austin that would extend through the ranch. As a result, they had a master plan developed that included surveys documenting the ranch's geology, hydrology, vegetation, wildlife, cultural resources, and aesthetic features. The family consulted with land planners, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Nature Conservancy. The master plan focused on implementing facets of land stewardship, scientific research, historic preservation, education and outreach, land conservation, and advocacy. Management practices like a rotational grazing system, a hunting program, and an integrated brush management plan improved rangelands and habitat, including that for the endangered golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo. In the 2000s, a series of prescribed burns that The Nature Conservancy conducted improved range conditions and wildlife habitat. Extensive scientific research has been accomplished on the ranch's flora, fauna, geology, and hydrology. Historic preservation efforts have extended to documentation of cultural resources, oral history, restoration and conservation projects, and State Antiquities Landmark designation for two prehistoric sites (Shield/Ayres/Bowen Families 2018:24-31). Educational efforts include founding El Ranchito nature-immersion summer camps for low-income children in 2007 and hosting dozens of programs, such as youth hunts, therapeutic horseback riding, Texas Wildlife Association Learning Across New Dimensions in Science series, school children, scouting groups, and plant identification workshops. The family's commitment to conservation led to two conservation easements—more than 4,700 acres with the Nature Conservancy in 1998 and 1,600 acres with the City of Austin in 1999—that allow for continued ranch operations, hunting, family use, and limited development while protecting the natural and cultural environments. A 2007 agreement with the developer of an adjoining upstream property secured strict water quality controls and protections from adverse impacts of the project's wastewater treatment system. From 2011 to 2012, the Ranch House (Resource 28A) was renovated and a new guest house (Resource 28N) was built. From 2016 to 2018, three generations of the Shield/Ayres/Bowen families strategized with expert consultants to develop a vision and new master plan. In 2018, they experienced both extreme loss, when they buried Robert Moss Ayres Jr. in the new family cemetery (Resource 27), and joy, as they celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Shield Ranch (National Park Service 2010:14-15; Shield/Ayres/Bowen Families 2018:32-33).

Significance under Criterion A

For more than a century, agricultural pursuits were the primary economic activity on the land within the Shield Ranch. Its nineteenth- and twentieth-century occupant families raised, processed, bought, and sold livestock and crops. Contributing buildings, structures, objects, and sites represent agricultural trends and practices typical of their contemporaneous eras and are considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for a period of significance that spans from 1870 to 1970. The start date of this one-hundred-year span accommodates the likely construction date of the earliest resources on the property, three low-water crossings (Resources 37, 38, and 42) and a wagon road (Resource 65). Since no specific date readily defines the end of historical activities that continued to have importance on the Shield Ranch, the end date of 50 years ago is applied. The earliest settlers represented the leading edge of settlement and early agricultural improvements and were responsible for establishing and demonstrating the feasibility of raising livestock and feed crops. They, and their early-twentieth-century successors, dug water wells and built modest dwellings, outbuildings, and structures to support their families. In the mid-twentieth century, the Shield family invested in the ranch, developing the infrastructure necessary to operate a viable livestock operation. They improved the land, capitalized on and protected its natural assets, and modernized operations to participate in the agricultural economy. Their imprint of minimalist manmade domestic and agricultural resources in this rich natural landscape conveys a remarkably unchanged pastoral setting.



Integrity

As a collection, the contributing archeological and historical resources in the Shield Ranch Historic District retain a high degree of integrity. All of the resources are in their original locations, and most alterations took place in the historic period. Most buildings, structures, and objects retain their historic material, with some under cover of modern additions or alterations. Historic fenestration patterns are uninterrupted on key buildings. Superficial and reversible alterations, such as application of modern roof materials, are not intrusive. Historic-period changes are acceptable. Because they retain a lot of artifacts, historic archeological sites in the district offer excellent additional sources of information about occupants and can be used to corroborate the archival record and produce details that documentary evidence does not. Although many of the sites have been disturbed through natural occurrences, like erosion and inclement climatic conditions, or human activity, like plowing, in every case, their surviving artifact assemblages are substantive enough to overcome these impairments. Most importantly, the district's integrity of feeling is inherent, with an intact rural setting that readily conveys the landscape's immutable bucolic appearance. The archival record—land grant, deed, ad valorem tax, manuscript decennial population and agricultural census records, newspapers, maps, photographs and myriad other sources—and the oral record as well, provide substantial documentation of the resources and their associative qualities. Most historic-period resources original to the property remain extant or protected, and the few modern intrusions are minor in scale and proportion.

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Geographical Data - UTM References:

- 1. 30.299744° -98.000951°
- 2. 30.295596° -98.014271°
- 3. 30.290595° -98.020511°
- 4. 30.276508° -98.024129°
- 5. 30.253006° -98.024663°
- 6. 30.243715° -98.007726°
- 7. 30.246147° -97.985242°
- 8. 30.244772° -97.970715°
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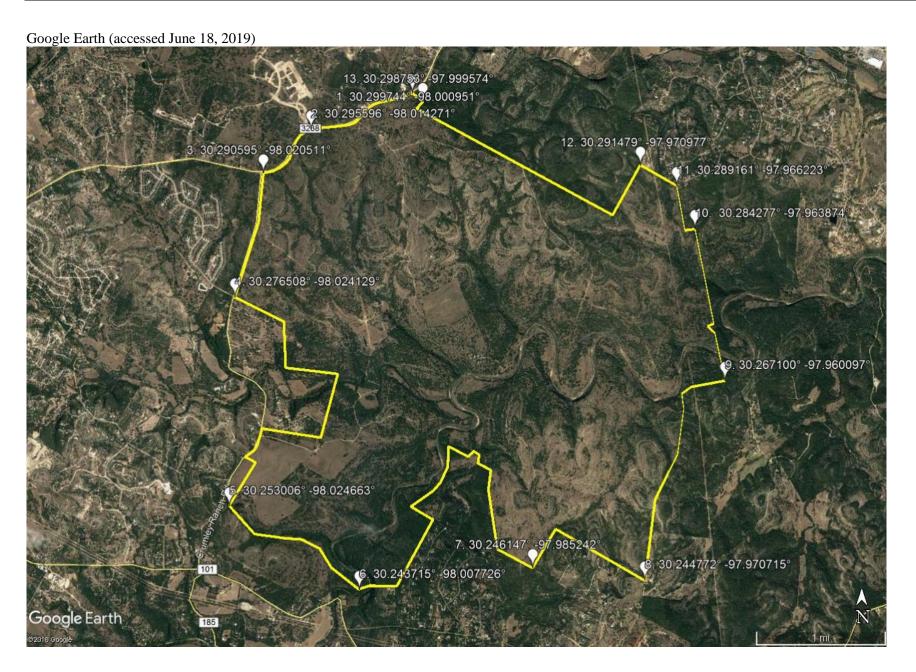
Verbal Boundary Description:

The northeast corner of the 6,345.94-acre Shield Ranch Historic District is about 2.5 miles west of the State Highway 71/Farm-to-Market Road 3238 intersection. In general, the district is roughly bounded by Farm-to-Market Road 3238 and Crumley Ranch Road on the west; Fitzhugh Road and residential subdivisions along that road to the south; privately held land and residential subdivisions on the east and on the north. More specifically, the district includes all but 398.805 acres that comprise Property 103125, a 6,744.745-acre land parcel in Travis County. Official county records provide legal descriptions of the Shield Ranch Historic District, which is composed of land in two conservation easements that total 6,345.94 acres. The larger western easement contains 4,670.24, and the extensive legal description was filed with the Travis County Clerk, Instrument number 6060122, Book 13340, Page 1088, on December 31, 1998. The smaller eastern easement contains 1,675.7 acres, and the extensive legal description was filed with the Travis County Clerk, Instrument Number 1999095848, on August 30, 1999.

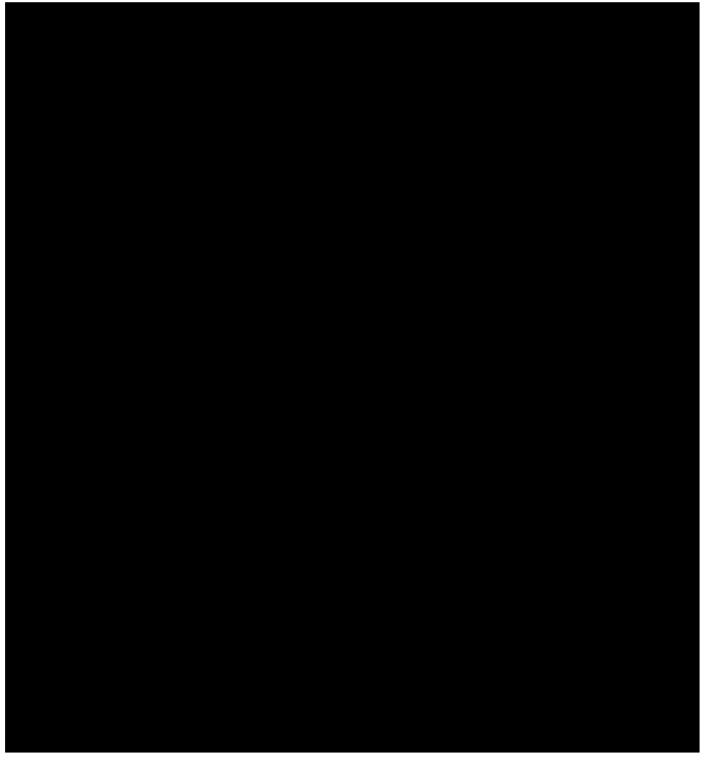
Boundary Justification:

The Shield Ranch Historic District boundary embraces the largest privately held parcel in the vicinity that is both exemplary and rare with a concentration of resources that have been historically associated with the property and retain a high degree of physical and historical integrity. The 6,345.94-acre district includes the core property the Hallmann family amassed in the 1880s and that they and subsequent owners have continuously operated as a ranch. Within the boundary are buildings, structures, objects, and sites that correlate with the evolution of the property's agricultural use from about 1870 to 1970. The few modern intrusions are minor, and most historic-period resources remain extant or, in the case of historic archeological sites, protected. Disturbance from easements and rights-of-way for utilities and waterways negligibly alter the historical landscape.

Outside the boundary, modern improvements are considerable and unremitting to accommodate burgeoning local population growth. Since 1990, the Travis County's population has increased almost 113 percent, and Hays County's population has risen almost 227 percent. The deleterious effects of attendant residential, commercial, industrial, transportation, and infrastructure construction surround the Shield Ranch. However, the 6,345.94-acre district boundary coincides with those of conservation easements the City of Austin (1,675.7 acres on the east side) and the Nature Conservancy of Texas (4,670.24) acres on the west side) hold. These easements protect the ranch's significant attributes by preventing development, prohibiting subdivision, and limiting disturbances to natural and cultural resources. Land that is presently part of the Shield Ranch, but outside the conservation easements is excluded from the district, as these several parcels were acquired in the 2000s to buffer the larger property but are not historically part of the Shield Ranch. This includes 398.805 acres, approximately 5.91 percent of Property 103125, plus five additional parcels totaling 105.23 acres in Travis County and five additional parcels totaling 60.551 acres in Hays County.







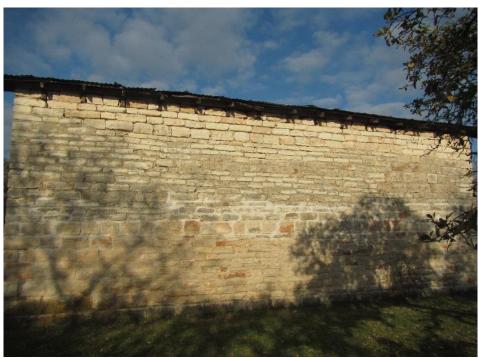


Figure 2. Side façade of the Hallmann post office/store (Resource 19A/41TV530).



Figure 3. Rear façade of the Hallmann post office/store (Resource 19A/41TV530).



Figure 4. The ca.1873 log cabin (Resource 32A/41TV1469) in the foreground with associated fence (Resource 32B) and agricultural field (Resource 32C) nearby.



Figure 5. The ca.1873 log cabin (Resource 32A/41TV1469) with a front addition Fred Haas noted (Haas 1990) in about 1915.



Figure 6. The wrought iron enclosure at the ca.1879 cemetery (Resource 64/41TV1467).



Figure 7. The tombstone of Edwina Catharina "Birdie" Rose, who died in 1879 and is buried in the cemetery (Resource 64/41TV1467).





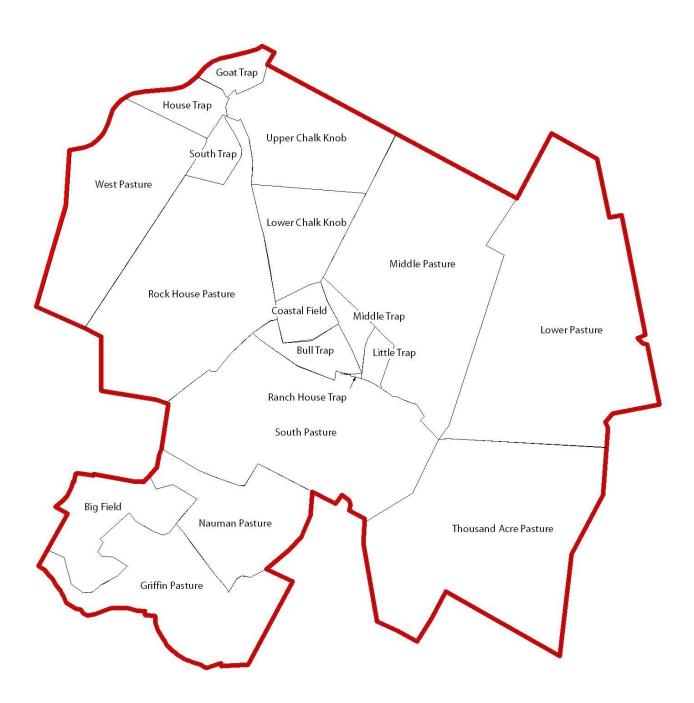


Figure 10. Pastures and traps on the Shield Ranch.



Figure 11. Aerial view of the Original Foreman's House (Resource 2, bottom left), Headquarters Complex (Resource 3, center), cattle guard (Resource 4), Headquarters House (Resource 5, far right center), and Sheep and Goat Complex (Resource 6, upper right) in 1942.

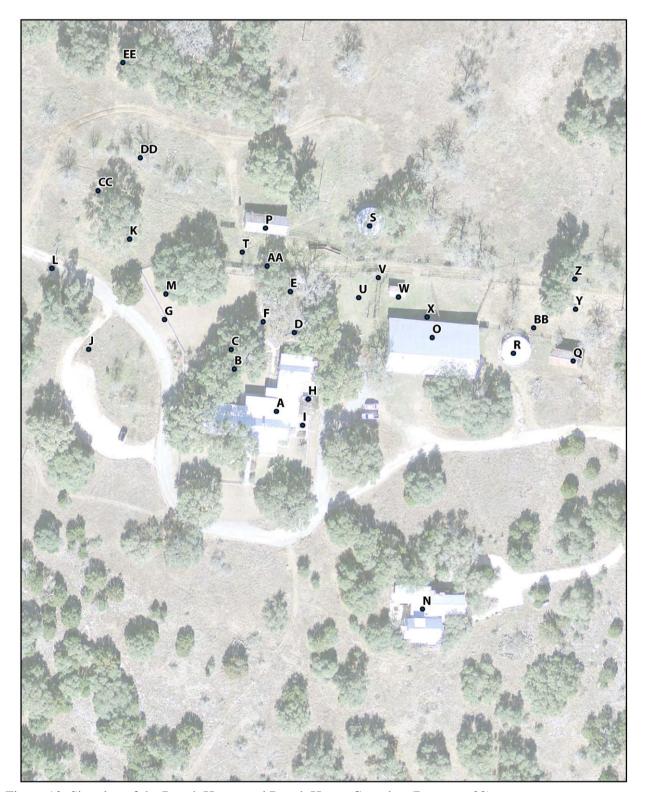


Figure 12. Site plan of the Ranch House and Ranch House Complex (Resource 28).



Figure 13. Aerial view of the Ranch House and Ranch House Complex (Resource 28) in 1942.



Figure 14. Aerial view of the Ranch House and Ranch House Complex (Resource 28) in 1942.

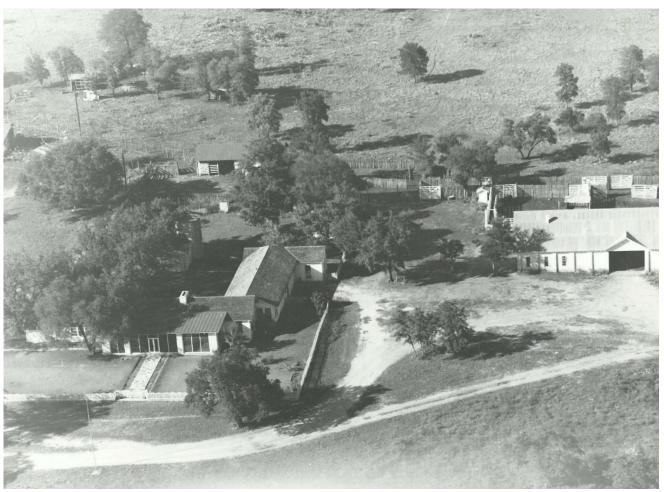


Figure 15. Aerial view of the Ranch House and Ranch House Complex (Resource 28) in 1942.



Figure 16. The Ranch House (Resource 28A) in about 1939, before the front porch was screened.



Figure 17. The Ranch House (Resources 28A–28C) in about 1939. The independent building was appended to the Ranch House as part of 1942 additions.

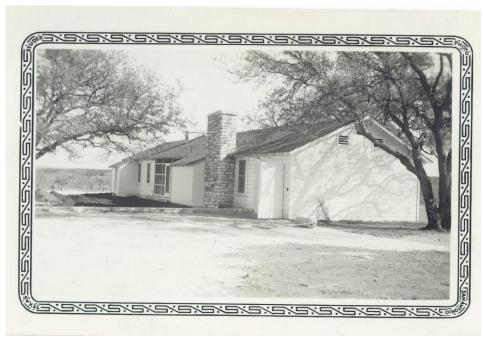


Figure 18. The Ranch House (Resource 28A), rear and side façades in about 1939.



Figure 19. The Ranch House (Resource 28A) in about 1942, after the front porch was screened and the picket fence (Resource 28G) was built.



Figure 20. The Ranch House (Resource 28A) in about 1960.

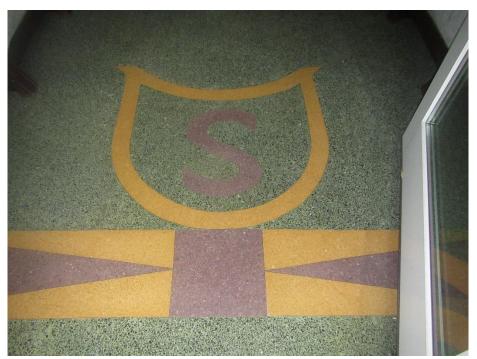


Figure 21. Terrazzo floor with the escutcheon-shaped Shield family crest just inside the front door of the Ranch House (Resource 28A).

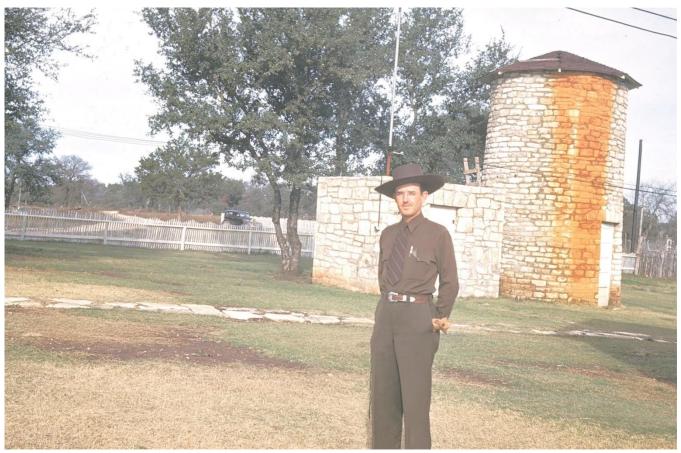


Figure 22. Fred Shield in front of the Ranch House pump house and cistern (Resources 28B and 28C) and the white picket fence (Resource 28G).



Figure 23. Site plan of the Headquarters Complex (Resource 3).



Figure 24. Aerial view of the Headquarters Complex (Resource 3, top), the Headquarters House (Resource 5, near center), and the Sheet and Goat Complex (Resource 6, far right) in 1942.





Figure 25. Details of the horse stalls at the Headquarters Complex barn (Resource 3A).



Figure 26. Detail of the hallway inside the Headquarters Complex horse barn (Resource 3A).



Figure 27. Detail of Shield Ranch brands in the Headquarters Complex horse barn (Resource 3A) tack room.



Figure 28. Detail of saddles in the Headquarters Complex horse barn (Resource 3A) tack room.



Figure 29. Detail of bin storage inside the Headquarter Complex barn/coop (Resource 3B).



Figure 30. Detail of worker handwriting keeping count of livestock dipped inside the Sheep and Goat Complex dipping-vat shed (Resource 6B).



Figure 31. The Ranch House Complex barn (Resource 28P) under construction.



Figure 32. Detail of Fred Weldon Shield's initials in the Ranch House Complex barn (Resource 28P).



Figure 33. Site plan of the Orchard House and Orchard House Complex (Resource 52).



Figure 34. The Flint Knob Pasture cistern (Resource 8A) in 1952, facing north-northeast.



Figure 35. A wood feed trough (Resource 68C) in the Thousand Acre Pasture immediately after the 1962 wildfire.



Figure 36. Etched on this gate (Resource 17B) is an April 1953 date and the number of goat kids rounded up.

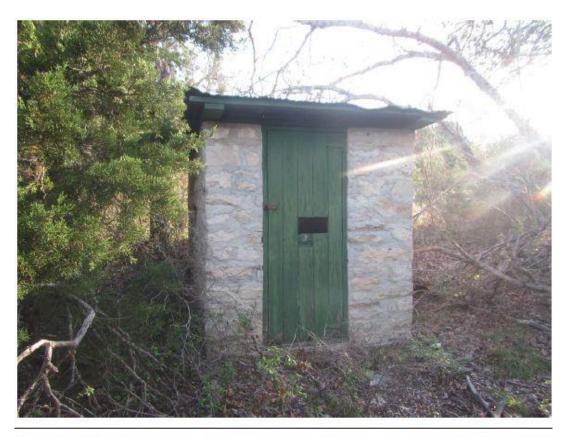




Figure 37. Vera Gentry Shield's deer blind (Resource 18) exterior (above) and interior (below).



Figure 38. The Shield Ranch landing strip (Resource 23) in 1942.

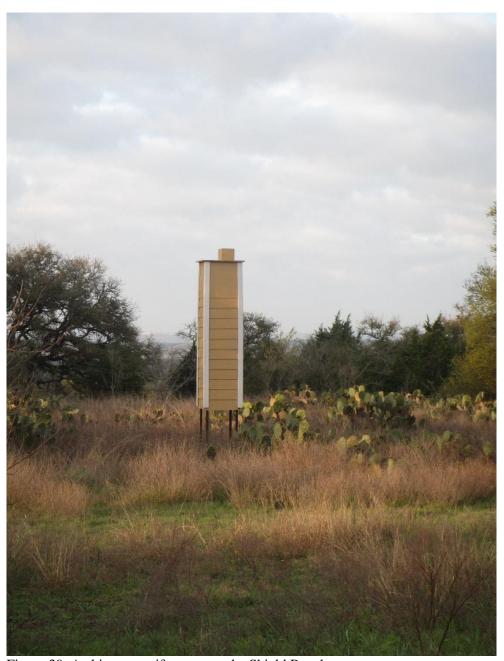


Figure 39. A chimney swift tower on the Shield Ranch.

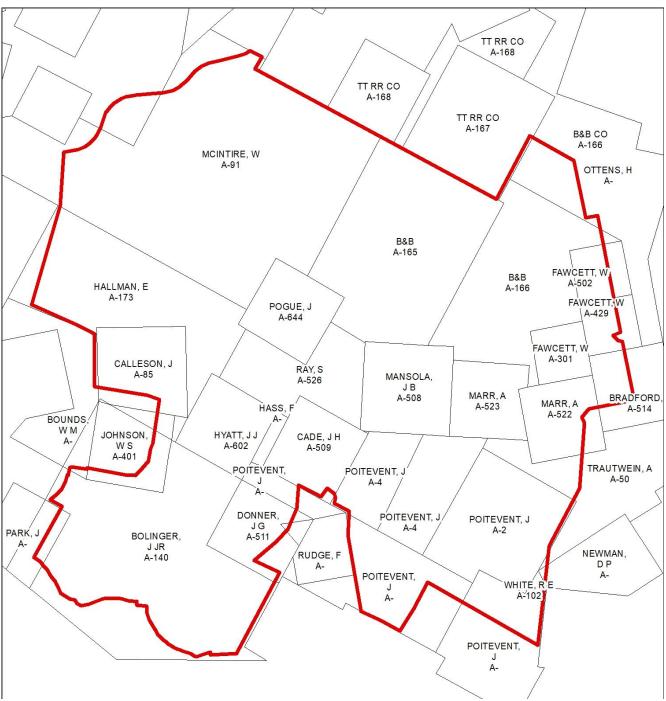


Figure 40. Land grants included in the Shield Ranch.



Figure 41. Fred Shield at the Ranch House (Resource 28A) with his fish catch in 1941.





Figure 42. A 1942 portrait (above) of Patricia, Vera, and Fred Shield in the Ranch House (Resource 28A) and, mounted on the fireplace inside (below) in April 1952, is the first wild turkey Patricia hunted on the ranch and an elk she bagged in Wyoming.



Figure 43. While others in Patricia Ann Shield's high school class were also outdoorsy, hers was the only senior portrait posed with a jaunty cowboy hat and scoped rifle in front of a pick-up truck.



Figure 44. Aerial view of the bulldozer work completed in 1942 in the Thousand Acre Pasture.

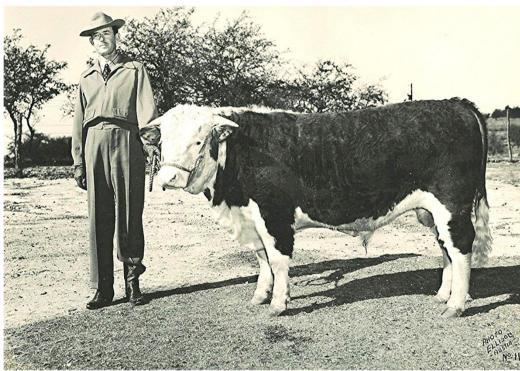


Figure 45. Fred Shield with a Hereford bull on the Shield Ranch.



Figure 46. An Angora goat in front of a palisade fence at the Shield Ranch.

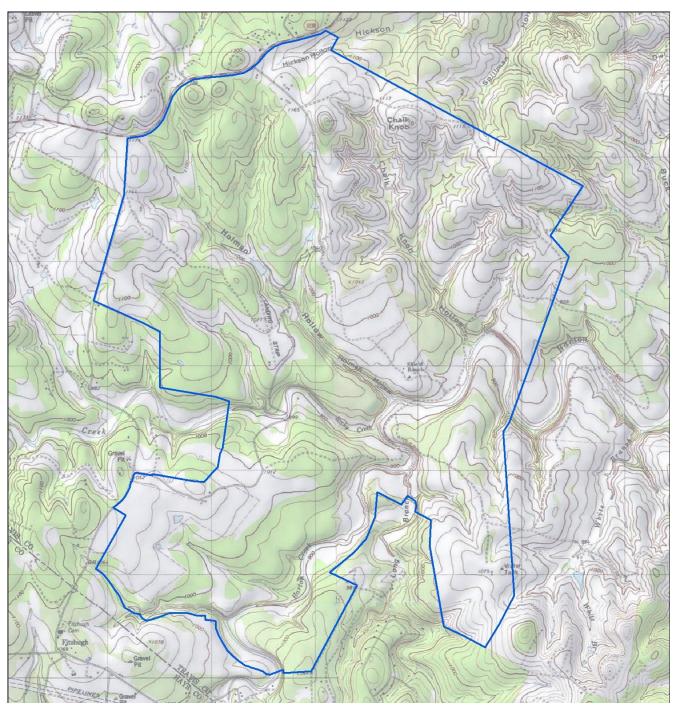


Figure 47. This delineation represents the legal description of The Nature Conservancy of Texas's conservation easement on the Shield Ranch from the Travis County Clerk, Instrument number 6060122, Book 13340, Page 1088, on December 31, 1998.

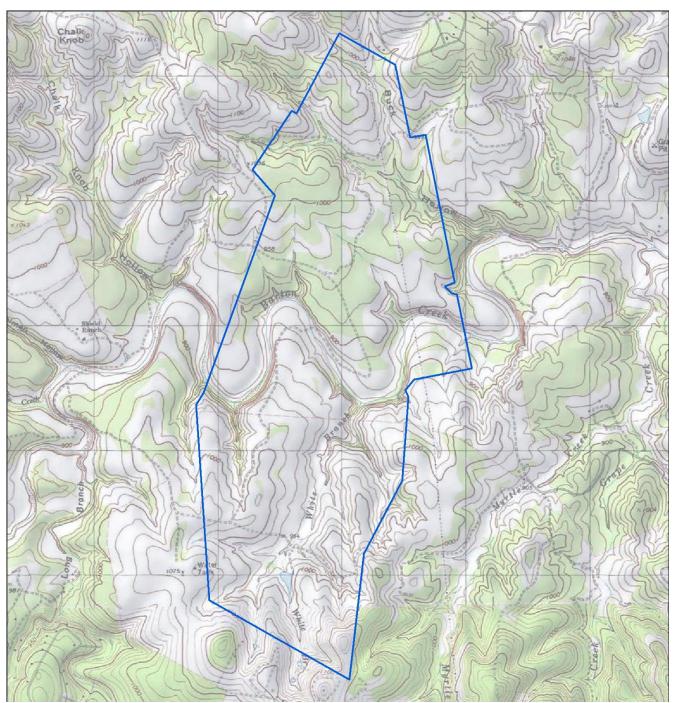


Figure 48. This delineation represents the legal description of the City of Austin's conservation easement on the Shield Ranch from the Travis County Clerk, Instrument Number 1999095848, on August 30, 1999.

Photographs





Photo 2: Horse barn—Headquarters Complex, camera facing northeast (03A-01)



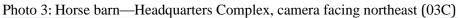




Photo 4: Cistern—Headquarters Complex, camera facing north (03E)





Photo 6: Water trough—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southeast (03H)







Photo 8: Feed troughs—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southwest (03OP)







Photo 10: Horse pen—Headquarters Complex, camera facing southeast (03S)



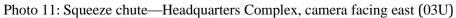




Photo 12: Loading chute—Headquarters Complex, camera facing northwest (03V)



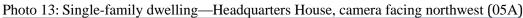




Photo 14: Livestock barn/shearing shed—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing southeast (06A-02)



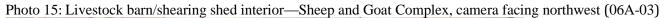




Photo 16: Livestock shed—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing north (06B)

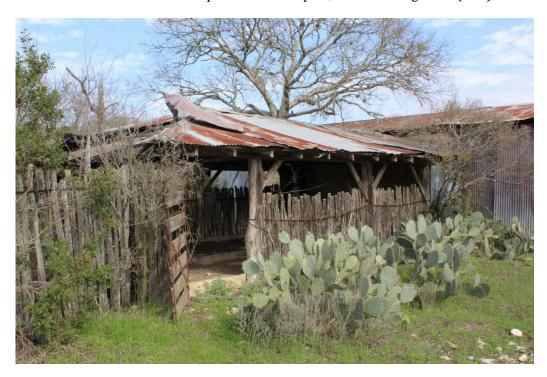
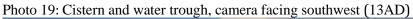






Photo 18: Water troughs—Sheep and Goat Complex, camera facing southeast (06FG)





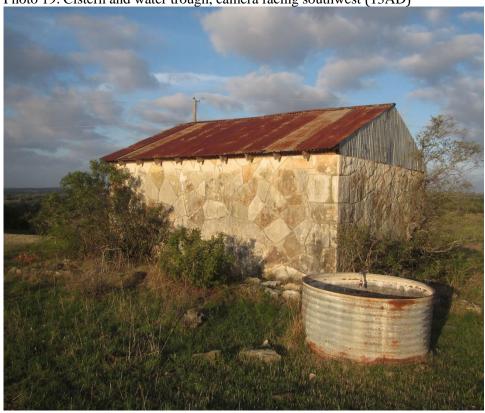


Photo 20: Water trough, camera facing northwest (13B)



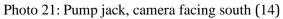




Photo 22: Livestock trap, camera facing east (17A)



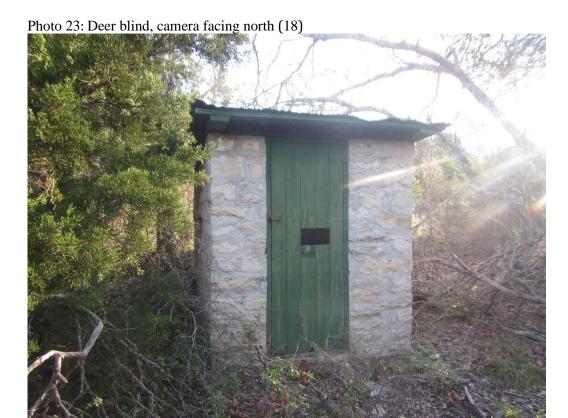


Photo 24: Post office/store/41TV530/41TV530, camera facing south (19A-02)







Photo 26: Barn, camera facing northwest (21)



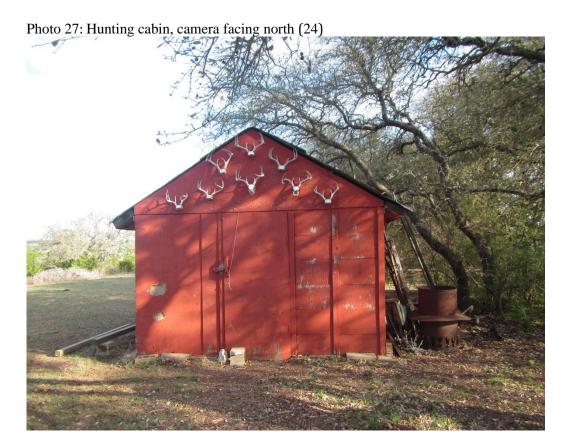
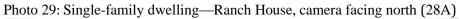


Photo 28: Cistern—Rock House Pasture, windmill, water trough, camera facing south (25ABC)







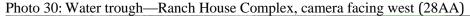








Photo 32: Play house—Ranch House, camera facing north (28D)



Photo 33: Gate—Ranch House, camera facing southeast (28L)



Photo 34: Barn—Ranch House Complex, camera facing northeast (28O-01)







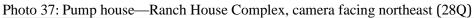




Photo 38: Livestock pen, loading chute, feed trough—Ranch House Complex, camera facing east (28UVW)



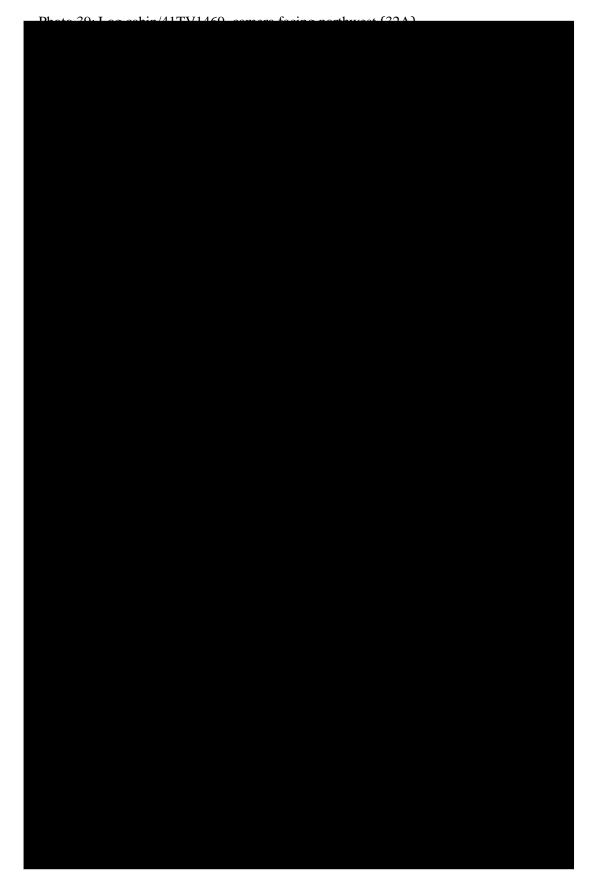




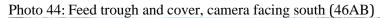


Photo 42: Low-water crossing, camera facing southeast (36)

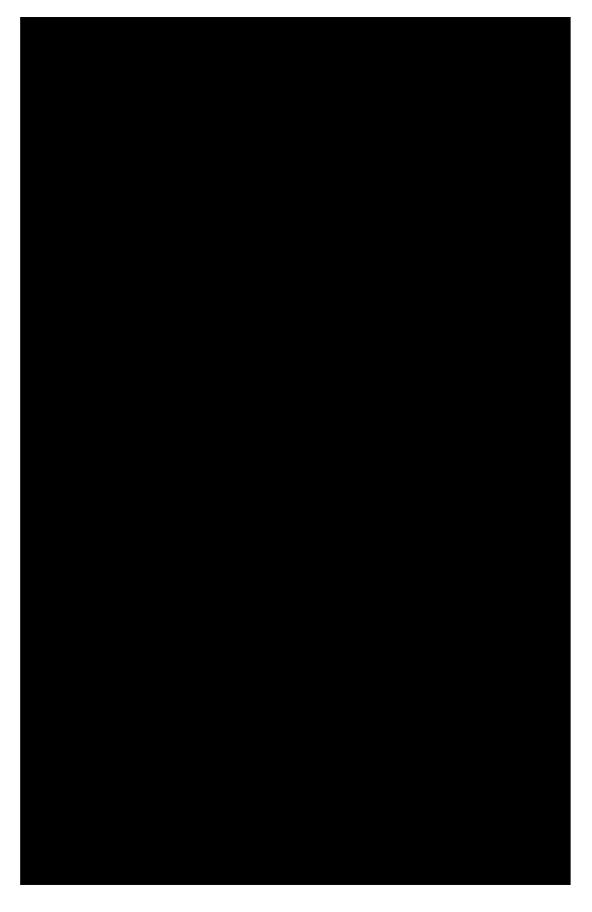












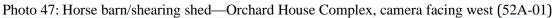




Photo 48: Horse barn/shearing shed—Orchard House Complex, camera facing north (52A-03)



Photo 49: Equipment barn—Orchard House Complex, camera facing west (52B)



Photo 50: Cistern—Orchard House Complex, camera facing north (52D)



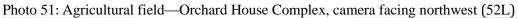




Photo 52: Agricultural field—Orchard House, camera facing northeast (52NOP)

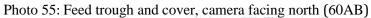






Photo 54: Livestock pond, camera facing southeast (58)







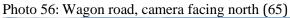








Photo 58: Water trough, camera facing west (67C)

